

PRINCETON
HISTORY

MISC. PIX

Rail Road

Misc.

EARLY STORIES

1882-1939

FROM OUT OF THE PAST
~~A SESQUICENTENNIAL TRIBUTE~~
~~AND PRINCETON SCRAPBOOK~~
~~(A HISTORY OF PRINCETON, IOWA)~~

copies

"A PRINCETON SCRAPBOOK"

))))))))))))))))))

(MODERN HISTORY OF PRINCETON, IOWA)
1900 - 2000

ADDEDUMS to ^{B.}Paul Dennis
"FROM OUT OF THE PAST"
1976, 83, 1986

~~Class on letters?~~

* FROM OUT OF THE PAST *

A ^A SESQUICENTENNIAL TRIBUTE AND PRINCETON SCRAPBOOK

A HISTORY OF PRINCETON, IOWA

delete

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Addendums 1983 and 1986

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Additional stories by:

- Alphabetize* →
- 5 Jim Arpy
 - Kathy Brase
 - 11 Mrs. Earl (Joyce) Brockhouse
 - 20 Shirley Davis
 - 14 Mrs. Frank Erfling
 - 9 Mr. and Mrs. Russell Enyeart
 - 17 Mrs. Paul (Ann) Geiger
 - 8 Louis Goller
 - 1 Al and June Grosz
 - 15 Mrs. Herbert (Edna) Holst
 - 7 Julie Jenson
 - 18 Penelope Cutkomp Miller
 - 19 Roberta McLaughlin (Mrs. David)
 - 6 Jim Renkes
 - 10 Mrs. Anna Beuse Schmidt
 - 12 Mrs. Elaine Schultz
 - 2 Alan Shaw
 - 16 Mrs. Lloyd (Bessie) Sierk
 - 13 Mrs. Elma ("Tib") Elliott Steward
 - 4 Glen Suiter
 - 3 Bill Wundram
 - other newspaper writers?
- leave space here!*

Alphabetize:

Thank you for the loan of photos to:

Merlin Boll
Paul B. Dennis family
North Scott Press
Quad-Cities Times (The Democrate)
Mrs. Berniece Frasier
Mrs. Anna Beuse Schmidt
Mrs. Elaine Schulz
Alan Shaw
Al Pries
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Woomert
Mr. and Mrs. David McLaughlin
Mr. and Mrs. Russell Enyeart

MR. AL PRIES

Russell Litscher estate

index

more detailed family histories about
~~Prin~~ early Princeton residents can be
found in History of Scott (1892?)

JOHN BRAGONIER

Louis Brockmann

~~MR~~ John + MELVINA POPE Fanning

Joseph Heble
DANIEL + JANE HIRE
H.C. GAST

JOHN KNOX M.D.
MRS. DOROTHY GRUM LIEBERENZ
CHARLES W. PINNED

MR + MRS. ~~IA~~ ISAAC POPE

MRS. ANNA CHRISTINA WOOLENHAUPT SCHMA

MR. ~~THOMAS~~ THOMAS (JANE HIRE THOMAS)

SAMUEL B. JOHN

- Charlotte Blevins book 1992

TRACY WILLIAM FREEMAN

Roy Holst

August FRANK + ANNA DORATHEA DRESCH

FRANK JOSEPH + MILDRED MARIE DRESCHER

CHARLES C. LEAMER

ART WILLIAM STAW

Soltan Family

PEITSCHER FAMILY

Also pages 56 - 58

PREFACE

Little has been written about the Princeton area during the past century. It is not the intention of the writer here to repeat what already has been written.

These pages are dedicated to the pupils of the Virgil Grissom School. It was through their desire to learn more about places and events of the past that furnished the inspiration for this book.

Paul B. Dennis

Mr. Paul Dennis died in 1988, we were pen pals for about 8 years, and I was the agent for his revised book in 1983. Mr. Dennis wrote 20 more stories before his death and donated all of his Princeton writings to the Princeton Days Committee for future publishing. Although I never met Mr. Dennis, he was an inspiration to me in completing this project.

-1996-
In this Iowa sesquicentennial year, I will establish a history room at the Princeton Library for future generations. Mr. Dennis' letters will be on display, also, other historical items I have collected.

I moved to Princeton on my 21st birthday (February 1st), 1971. I do not have relatives in this area but have adopted this town as my own and have a great love for it's people and the river.

Penelope (Penne) Miller

(Another excellent book on Princeton history was written by Dorothy B. Lage in 1987, called, "Princeton, Iowa, A Two-Rivers Township")
-P.M.

FROM OUT OF THE PAST
~~Out of the Distant Past~~ correction. . .

" *Article "Indian Mound"* page 6

Part of this artical has proved to be untrue, as zebra's were never in this area. In 1996 I talked to the State Archeologist, Doug Jones, who said, "Zebras never made it Iowa."

But another rumour surfaced in my research. It seems that an old jokester who lived on Fifth Street had years before buried several old drafthorses on this location. Who knows?

An archeologist at the Putnam Museum in Davenport said the early "archeologists" in our area were mainly "unschooled" and did more harm than good, in most cases, in early digs.

The Indian mound story is valid and some of the artifacts are still at the Putnam Museum. Skeletons that were found were shipped to Des Moines

-Penelope Miller

EARLY COMMUNITY BIRTHS

Reference is made as to Dr. John Knox being the first white child born in Scott County. Later research proves this to be in error. During 1834 in the Pleasant Valley area, a son was born to Mr. and Mrs. J.B. Chamberlin. In Princeton during 1838, Henry Hire, Thomas Doty and Albert Pinneo were born. Dr. John Knox was born in 1852.

-P.Dennis

Also, there is a reference to an Uncle Joe Mounts, whose daughter Harriet Mounts Fridley was born September 2, 1835 as the first white girl being born in Scott County in the History of Scott County, Vol. #1.

-P.Miller



THE OLD INDIAN TRAIL

The Princeton area was once traversed by an Indian trail. When the Indians relinquished the area provisions were made that they could have access to the Mississippi River. The trail was some eight feet in width and extended from west to east. It entered the early settlement location in the middle of the 600 block of the present 5th Street and extended east along the north side of the L.E. Long property and Presbyterian Manse.

It is doubtful if the Indians ever exercised their privilege much of travel on this route. The nearby Wapsipinicon River provided a watercourse almost to the Minnesota border.

None of the early maps and charts of explorers designate this river to be the Wapsipinicon. Its name was identical with the Mississippi River except for the first letter. Later a cartographer changed the name to the Wapsipinicon. This inspired the legend of the two Indian lovers Wapsi and Pinicon.



P.Dennis



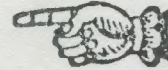
WOLVES

As late as 1918 wolves could be heard howling their disapproval as the evening passenger train whistled through town. One of them was silenced by a boy with an old Stevens 12 ga. pump gun that would not repeat. Ralph Ney was hunting squirrels in ARkie's timber when a big grey wolf broke cover from a ditch. Ralph made his one shot good. He took the carcass to the County Courthouse to be sure he had complete evidence to receive the bounty. He was given permission to remove the pelt. This he did with his pocket knife.

A LeClaire painter kept close watch every year on a wolf living in the hills west of Princeton. When her pups were whelped he would tote his gun, a sack, and a spade to the den and then dig out the pups. He was asked where with old wolf was when he was doing all of this. "Well, he said, "she was just sitting a few yards away watching me." He was then asked why he didn't shoot her for the extra bounty. He replied, "Why should I kill the goose that lays the golden eggs every year?"



PRINCETON RACQUET CLUB

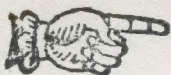


In the early 1920's, some 15 young people were enthusiastic members. Since only one court was available doubles generally would be played. The court was located on a vacant lot now occupied by the Presbyterian Manse. Games were played both morning and afternoon during the summer.

Rachel Morgan was president of the tennis club and Harold Penrod was official scorekeeper. A complete list of other members is not available, but in addition to Rachel and Harold were Jasper Morgan, Alice, Olive, and John Hickey, Gladys and John Rummel, and Paul Dennis.



- P. Dennis

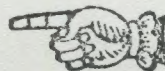


The Wapsipi Club

The club was organized about 1916 by some 30 Davenport men interested in duck hunting. A club house cabin was built on the river bank just below Deep Slough. In later years when this was destroyed by fire a masonry clubhouse was built on the opposite Illinois shore.

All of the shooting was done from scullboats. One decoy spread was located on Williams' Bar and the other out from Lewis Island. About 100 wooden bluebill and canvas back decoys were used in each spread in addition to about 30 live mallards and generally had a pen of about 200. Ed Blocker and Paul Dennis of Princeton served many seasons as scullers. They were paid a salary for the season and received a bonus for each duck they shot when no club members were present. These ducks were placed in cold storage for winter banquets. The usual seasons kill was about 1,600 ducks!

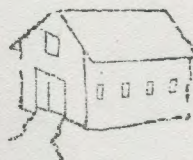
What's in a name?



In the past, having a nickname in Princeton, was not unusual. In fact, some even had a double nickname such as Tom's Tom. An incomplete list of the 1930's follows:

Alf, Big Wrist, Boozer, Cap, Catfish, Chicken, Chink, Darb, Del, Doc, Dummy, Fick, Heine, Howd, Hooker Joe, Hub, Indian Joe, Jit, Kaiser, Bill, Kiku, Nard, Neykee, Opie, Pandy, Pappy, Press, Pude, Ratty, Red, Rocky, Skinny, Sky, Teabo, Tink, Tig (Tigarette) Louie, Vickie, Whitey, etc....

—P. Dennis





THE OLD SWIMMING HOLE

Located below the high bank of the river at the upper end of town, it afforded privacy and much enjoyment to the boys in the buff. Woe be unto anyone so modest as to wear a swim suit. The bottom had its share of sharp rocks and bazorback clams. A cut or two could be expected. Leeches also would get between the toes which had to be examined upon leaving the water. About 15 or 20 boys would frolic in the water sometimes both in the morning and in the afternoon.

After the swim it was nice to stretch out on the grass on top of the bank. Someone would always have a sack of Bull Durham and some papers. Various subjects were discussed between puffs such as fishing but the most opoular one was "what's doing tonight?" Sometimes the northbound freight would stop to permit the soughbound passenger to pull onto the siding. Invariably the former would have a cattle car of Muscatine melons. As a rule, the top end gate was without seal. As one boy said, "This is not stealing but they wished to make some samples available."



NEVER SEND A BOY



Chris Sierk was not a real big man but he was a powerhouse of strength. After giving my father an order for groceries he asked to have a barrel of salt also. My father told me to go along and help load it. His wagon was backed up to the doorway of the warehouse across the street. Several barrels of salt were near the doorway and he asked me if it made any difference which one he took. I said, "No, they all weigh the same". He brushed me aside and twirled the barrel over and into the wagon like it was empty. I returned to the store and my father asked me if I got the salt loaded. I said, "That man didn't need me." "I know, said my father, "it was just a matter of courtesy."

Paul Dennis



HOUSEBOAT DWELLERS

Most river towns had some houseboat dwellers and Princeton was no exception. Nestled below the high river bank at the upper end of town they were afforded both privacy as well as protection from the cold northwest winds. The hulls were constructed of two inch planks and a subfloor provided a generous air space beneath. One heating stove sufficed. A sandpoint and pitcher pump was the usual water supply.

Charley Carr and his wife lived just below the Alf Schulz home. After retiring as a commercial fisherman, he became the janitor of the old stone school house.

Just below the Carr boat was the location of Joe Ney's boat. Joe led a very peaceful life and had a very soft quiet manner. He enjoyed conversing with friends.

Below the present Locker Plant was the boat of Jack Phelps. It had the distinction of having a cold water spring gushing from the bank near his doorway. This was before the days of the Thermo jugs and was the last source of supply for the old burlap covered jugs for those going fishing up river. The water was evidently safe to drink as no cases of typhoid or dysentery were attributed to it. Jack was a retired railroad man and his hobby was his two inboard powered launches, the Drake and the Duck. They were painted red, white and blue and had rounded prows like Dutch whalers. After Jack's death his place was declared untenable and was destroyed.



INVITING CHOICE



Princeton at one time boasted two lodging places. One was operated by the Roach Family and the other by the Slaughter Family. A salesman, intent on staying in town for a few days, inquired of a local resident as to the availability of a room. "Oh yes", replied the latter, "You have your choice of either the Roach House or the Slaughter House."

Paul Dennis



THE WAGER

I was working in my garden when my friend True Engelhardt came to see me. He had made a wager with Clyde Nicholson that he could swim across the river and back in less than an hour. I was to follow in my rowboat to keep the swimmer advised of the time and to also be available in case of a bad cramp seizure. Each man bet ten dollars and this was placed in my billfold along with their signed statement of conditions. True entered the water at the foot of Fillmore St. and stroked towards the Illinois shore. He swam leisurely but strongly and occasionally changed strokes. When he reached the Illinois shore, he stood up and waved then plunged back in.

About mid-stream he suffered a slight leg cramp and told me to stay close. It was but a momentary delay, however, as he then struck boldly to the Iowa shore where he left the water at the old frame warehouse. Time: 45 minutes and 40 seconds.



FEW PAID - MOST DID NOT



A rank growth of scrub willows covered the riverfront for almost four blocks south of Washington Street. Two men were hired by the town council to clean the area as close to the ground as possible. They were to receive an hourly wage of thirty cents and were to furnish their own tools. The area was strewn with small rocks which required frequent filing of the axes.

Upon the sixth day of work, when but a small area remained uncut, Theodore DuBois, the Street Commissioner, drove down the street and enjoyed the river view not previously possible. He reined in his horse and beckoned the workers to come to his buggy. "You have done a very good job and have earned almost enough to pay the poll tax that you owe," he said.

— P. Dennis

POLLYWOGGIN

Two Princeton boys, during an extremely low river stage, decided to exploit the almost virgin clam bed out from Cap Rook's place. It was an area too discouraging to drag with bars at normal stages. Numerous rock ridges inclined upstream and once a bar got lodged beneath one it was next to impossible to retrieve.

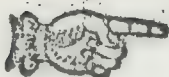
Both boys were tall and, at that present stage of the river, was only waist deep to them. It was therefore unnecessary for them to submerge their heads to pick up the shells. They loaded their flatboat during the first days' work mostly with three ridges, washboards and nigger heads. Early the following morning they steamed out the meats at the foot of Chestnut St. A neighboring father and son were inquisitive bystanders. That afternoon they followed the boys to the worksite and took up a position a few feet outside of their boat. The water was a little deeper there and the men were short so they had to lower their heads beneath the surface to reach the bottom. On their first immersion their heads popped up immediately. They looked inquiringly at the two boys who were busy tossing shells in the boat. After this happened three or four times the intruders left.*

After the boys harvested six or seven boatloads the river raised and the operation ended. During the winter, however, they returned and dug the shells through the ice with large forks bolted to two-by-fours.

*Most of the shells, especially the three ridges, had an accumulation of mud and sand imbedded on them. Much of this was cleaned off by vigorously pounding two together beneath the water before tossing in the boat. This caused intolerable concussions to ears below water.



—P. Dennis



JUST A TINY SHRUB

One morning Al Pries and I were having a friendly little chat in front of the Post Office. A car with the State of Washington plates parked closeby. The driver approached us and inquired if we could direct him to someone who had knowledge of old cemeteries in the area. He was searching for the unmarked grave of his grandfather Andrew Goller. I told him I knew where it was and it was not exactly unmarked. Enroute to Oakridge Cemetery we stopped at my home to pick up the cemetery's registry.

Just a short distance from the cemetery's entrance was Andrew Goller's grave in a well kept lot. At the head of the grave was just a tiny shrub that had been spared for years by considerate caretakers. I showed Mr. Goller the register and he could see the location was in agreement with neighboring monuments.

How he voiced his appreciation that even though no contributions had ever been made for the maintenance of the cemetery his grandfather's grave was well kept. He recognized names on several stones as being families he had heard his father mention. Before returning to Washington, he gave the cemetery a liberal check for maintenance and purchased a nice marker. Now the tiny shrub stands proudly beside it.



OH! OH! OH! THOSE SHRAPNEL WOUNDS



A local war veteran, who was a bartender, would at the slightest excuse rub his stomach and moan "Oh! oh! oh! those shrapnel wounds". One day another veteran sat sipping his beer in meditation when it was interrupted by the old familiar refrain. Rushing behind the bar he ripped the surprised bartender's shirt open to view. Not the slightest vestige of even a small scratch was visible. Thenceforth the discomfort of the shrapnel wounds was never mentioned.

P. Dennis



HIDDEN CAVE

During the middle of the past century a large underground storage room was blasted from solid rock on the west side of River Drive south of Whiskey Run. Access was by a trap door over a stairway beneath the west edge of the sidewalk. After the Camanche cyclone made local people apprehensive of the danger, many kept a watchful vigil near the entrance should ominous storm signals appear. Heine Carber's adjacent tavern utilized the cave for the storage of bottled beer. The temperature of the brew thus stored was preferred by many discriminating customers. Calls for "one out of the cave" were common.

After the Carber tavern was destroyed by fire, the entrance stairwell to the cave was plugged with rocks and concrete. Later some interest was manifested in reopening the cave, but the expense of the fill removal and construction of new steps discouraged this.



MURDER ON FOURTH STREET



It was a typical small town frame house. A nice bluegrass lawn and stately evergreens gave it an exterior appearance of peacefulness. Inside however, it was fraught by domestic strife of the tenants. It ended one day when the husband shot his wife and daughter then ended his own life. It was a tragedy unprecedented in the history of the town. It was inconceivable that such a thing could happen in a community of such gentle people.

In later years the subject was avoided, and if discussed, it was with subdued voices. There never was a meal eaten nor a nights' rest taken in the house thereafter. Its doors and windows remained locked. Finally, after over half a century of vacancy it deteriorated to the extent that it had to be razed. The grounds were leveled and reseeded. The place reverted to its former appearance of earlier days.

—P. Dennis

Happily Married 64 Years—Here's How

1939
Special to The Democrat

Princeton, Ia., June 3.—Captain and Mrs. John Rook, pioneer residents of Princeton, started their 65th year of married life Saturday by weeding their garden.

The couple who celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary Friday, paused to pose for The Democrat photographer and explain their secret of successful matrimony.

"Work in close harmony and be tolerant of each other, is the answer to happy married life," said Captain Rook.

"We have found that the best way to avoid disagreeable arguments is for one of us to find a magazine or paper to read and in a short time our difficulties are ironed out," explained Mrs. Rook.

Captain Rook is 91 years old and has resided in Princeton for 85 years. His wife is 83. They were married in Lyons, Ia., in 1875 and established their home here the same year.

Mrs. Rook was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, on Jan. 20, 1856, and moved to Lyons with her parents when a child.

Captain Rook was born on the banks of the Wapsie river and moved to Princeton with his parents in 1854.

At the age of 17 he drove a stage coach, carrying mail from Maquoketa to Osage.

He gave up the stage coach route after a few years and started his river career as a laborer on a lumber raft boat plying the Mississippi from Davenport to Beef Slough, Minn.

He was made mate on two raft boats and later was promoted to captain. For many years he piloted steamers on the river becoming a veteran riverman.

In reminiscing his experiences on the river in the old days he told of perilous trips, during stormy weather and over dangerous rapids when boats were operated without the benefits of modern signal systems to guide them.

"Traffic was heavy during the



Pictured above are Capt. and Mrs. Rook as they paused in their work of weeding the garden to pose for The Democrat photographer.

old logging days and our boats handled tons of freight and hundreds of passengers before they were replaced with modern transportation," said the veteran pilot.

Captain John retired about 20 years ago when river traffic was supplanted by faster railway transportation.

CAP'S PET

John (Cap) Rook lived in the first house north of Budd Creek on River Drive. There was just room enough for his house and barn between the I&I tracks and the base of the cliff. A few acres on the top of the hill were available for tillage or pasture. John was an early Pony Express rider. This no doubt accounts for his Indian bride. Later he took up steamboating and acquired the nickname "Cap".

At retirement he used his tillable ground for growing cane. He even had his own sorghum mill. In later years he was content to tend a few milk cows. He devised a yoke that permitted him to carry two buckets of milk to dispense to his customers in town. In this occupation he enjoyed no modern conveniences such as a milking machine or vermin and insect control. While seated on his milking stool his wife with one hand would wave a palmetto fan and, with the other hand, use a fly swatter vigorously. He had no rat problem. A giant bullsnake that lived in the barn took care of that. A certain camarade and understanding existed between the snake and Cap. Cap would talk to the snake, stroke it gently with a stick and always provided it with a bowl of milk.

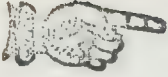
This strange relationship continued for many months until late one spring. After a long winter's hibernation, the snake evidently sought some companionship with one of its kind. It wandered into the garden of Col. Miller. Now Miller was a newcomer in the community and wasn't aware of all local bits of interest. He was terrified by the awesome size of Cap's pet and rushed into the house for his shotgun. The snake, that had always been the object of kindness by man heretofore, was an easy unsuspecting target of the shotgun.

A neighbor saundered over to learn the cause of the gunshot. He was aghast when he viewed the dead Cap's pet. "Do you know what you have just done?" he asked. "You have killed Cap's pet. Better say nothing to anyone about this lest it reaches the ear of Cap."

Since the participants of this drama have long since passed away the danger of a confrontation is over and now the story can be related.



- P. Dennis



WRONG PLACE - WRONG TIME

John "Stagee" Hire lived upstairs on the east side of River Drive in the 300 Block. During mild weather he would leave an old kitchen chair on the sidewalk next to the building and at the foot of the staircase. It was a nice place to visit with people going to Alban's Drug Store or the Post Office. Frequently he was molested by boys who would shout up the stairway, "Stagee Hire, you are a liar." They would then retreat around the corner of the bank.

One evening Stagee heard someone move his chair. Armed with a billiard cue and in bare feet, he stealthfully crept down the stairs. At the bottom he took a vicious swing with the cue and heard the thud as it hit its mark. Triumphantly he stepped out on the sidewalk and, to his dismay, saw Curt Speer stretched out in the chair knicked cold. He had been waiting for the drug store to open. Now this could not have happened to a nicer or more friendly man. He was not hurt badly but thereafter gave the chair a wide berth. Strangely enough the molestation of Stagee Hire stopped.



PRINCETON BAKERIES

John and Lester Swanson were well experienced bakers and had a thriving business in the 400 block of River Drive. In addition to their local sales, they had outlets in neighboring towns. John's wife helped in the bakery and and the father drove the delivery truck. The quality of their products was excellent but their financial management was not. Their closing was due to the latter.

Prior to the Swanson Bakery, one was operated by a man simply known locally as Indian Joe. It was on a much smaller scale and lasted but a few months.

P. Dennis

HERE HE IS

As a very young reader, I was fascinated by Hans Christian Andersons' "The Ugly Duckling". Little did I realize at the time that in later years I would witness a similar transformation.

Just prior to being away from Princeton for several months, I visited my brother Walt. He lived in the little brick house in the 600 block on 5th St., known to old timers as the Bowley place. Walt often referred to 5th St. as Skyline Drive.

Walt was seated outside and had the company of "Pappy" Long and John "Chink" Rook. My attention whoever was not directed to them but to another visitor struggling to make its way uphill through the garden. The kitten could only travel a few feet at a time before falling exhausted. It finally arrived in front of Walt's chair where it collapsed. Its little wet and trembling body was but skin and bones and its neck was devoid of hair. It was indeed a pitiful sight. Walt said, "Go away kitty, I don't want you here". The kitten remained motionless. It had expended its last energy. Walt shrugged his shoulders and went into the house. He returned with a can of Pet milk and a crust of bread which he placed in a saucer before the kitten. After taking this nourishment it went to sleep beneath Walt's chair. He took an old towel that was drying on the fence and tenderly covered his new found friend.

Several months later I returned to Princeton and visited Walt. This time he had the company of Ludy Anderson. Again my attention was directed to the other company. Upon Walt's lap was stretched the most beautiful big Persian tom one could imagine. It had a big ruff around its neck which Walt was stroking and the cat was responding by playfully patting his hand. A fleeting thought flashed thorough my mind, but I thought that too improbable. I did, however, inquire about the starved sick kitten. Holding the beautiful Persian aloft he passed him to me chuckling and saying, "Here he is!"



P. Dennis

YOU AIN'T GOT NOTHIN' ON ME!

It was in the 1940's and a dance was expected to attract a large crowd. Many early arrivals stopped in at Carber's Tavern for a little pre-dance socialbility. It was in the building formerly occupied by the M.L.Hire Clothing Store. One minor anxious to be where the action was had to be told to leave, on two occasions. Upon his third visit, Heine Carber grasped him by the collar and shoved him out the front door. The youth shouted, "You will pay for this!".

During the dance intermission , the dancers viewed what appeared to be the entire business section of Princeton on fire! And much of it was! All the buildings between the general store and Whiskey Run were ablaze! Just the first floor of the Barber Shop was saved. Totally destroyed were the Scott County Bee Keepers storage building, the Carber's Tavern, Restuarant, Shoe Repair Shop, two smoke houses, and a two story barn. Heine Carber's brand new Buick in the barn was a total loss, too!

The State Fire Marshal was summoned. He interrogated the youth who had been ejected from Carber's Tavern and who had threatened reprisals. The Fire Marshall said that the youth's answer to every one of his questions was the same. "You ain't got nuttin' on me!".

Now the youth lived in the old Riverside Hotel. The entrance door was locked every night about 11:00 p.m.,but adult tenants had a key. One tenant reported that during the night the suspected youth had entered the building through the coal bin. Evidence was insufficient for a trial.

Now, Heine Carber's problems were not over . He Purchased and moved into a building between Whiskey Run and Clay Street, unaware that the ditch was privately owned and taxed property, he cantilevered a section over the ditch extending south. When he was told by the owners that his enclosure would cost \$5,000. he just about had had it! It was just a joke, however. For \$25.00 he purchased the entire width of Whiskey Run and his faith in humanity was restored.

100000

The IOOF and Rebekah Lodges

The Odd Fellow Lodge was a very popular with the male residents of Princeton. They met every Saturday night in a building on River Drive (now gone) across the street from Dixie's Beauty Shop. There was always a large crowd!

The Rebekah's met twice a month. They had a drill team that was very proficient and were asked to put on their work in both Davenport and Clinton.

The highlights of the lodge were the many suppers put on for the families of the lodge, to mark different occasions. There, also, were many Oyster Stews, Halloween suppers, Christmas suppers, that were largely attended and were always a good means of being sociable.

There was a Butcher Shop across the street from the lodge that burned down the night of a supper. The shop was owned by a Scottish couple, Mr. and Mrs. Archie Henderson, who also, belonged to the lodge. When Mr. Henderson decided not to rebuild, my dad, Edward Peitscher, erected the stucco building (which now houses Dixie's Beauty Shoppe) as a grocery store. Directly north of the store building was the Revere Hotel, owned and operated by Mr. and Mrs. E.L.Slaughter. Mr. Slaughter for many years was the Justice of Peace in Princeton. The Slaughters were also lodge members and they were very faithful to the lodge.

- "Tib" Stewart

GRAVEYARD HOAX

A curious and somewhat excited crowd had gathered in the 400 block of Lost Grove Road. A reporter with sound truck from WOC was on hand. An almost hysterical woman sobbed that her house might require moving. The Town Marshal was called. A startling discovery had been made. Two old limestone grave monuments had been discovered at the extreme rear of the Baxter property. The area was a pioneer graveyard according to the on-lookers, except one.

The Town Marshal jotted down the names and dates on the markers and called on the Oakridge Cemetary Director, who had the cemetary records. The latter smiled and opened the ledger to the Baxter lot. There were two monuments with names and dates in complete agreement with the ones on the old stones. Harry Baxter had purchased new granite monuments then tossed the old stones on the rear of his lot.

F. Dennis

THEY CAME FROM PRINCETON

Most communities produce some young men who attain distinction. Princeton is no exception to that rule. Considering the small population it has done exceedingly well. We have recorded some of these men of this century. Job descriptions are from information that was available.

JOURNALISM

Robert Elliott Recognized nationally as a foremost authority on milk processing and promotion. Formerly was Product Manager with Crepaco, Chicago, Ill. Now Managing Editor of the American Dairy Review.

Mervon Fulton Editor of Times-Democrat.

PHYSICIANS AND DENTISTS

Samuel Fletcher Doctor of Clinical Psychology. Director of Mental Health Center, Danville, Virginia, and in addition a private practice.

Donald Sierk DDS, Orthodontist

Vern Grams MD, California

MILITARY

Col. Harold Penrod Ret. California, U.S. Army.

ACCOUNTING

Emory Schaefer Auditor, U.S. Government General Accounting Office.

LAW

Otto Thomsen Corporation Attorney, Kansas City, Missouri.

Jasper Morgan Attorney, Clinton, Iowa.

MERCANTILE

Charles Morgan Successful merchant, LeClaire, Iowa.

Merlin Boll Maintained the good service and business volume of Boll's Store.

Hilding Lund Dealer in farm equipment, automobiles and maintained a service garage. Afforded employment to many.

P. Dennis

ENGINEERING AND MANUFACTURING

Lawton Engelhardt Executive, Eastman Kodak Co.

Ellwyn Kroeger Retired as Production Manager of hte Maytag Co., Newton, Iowa. Then founded the LeClaire Manufacturing Co.

Harold Woomert Supervisor for DuPont Co. Long service as Princeton Councilman, a record. Manager of Oakridge Cemetery the past 10 years. ?

John R. (Bob) Suiter Engineer for DuPont Co. The most outstanding and progressive mayor of Princeton in its history. During his administration he was the motivation behind the construction of the municipal water works, a sewage system and the Watertower Park and recreational areas.

BANKING

Robert W. Sierk Senior Vice President of First National Bank of Iowa City, Iowa. Chairman of the United Fund for 1984.

Stephen G. Suiter Executive Vice President of Farmers Savings Bank of Princeton, Iowa, and LeClaire State Bank of LeClaire, Iowa. Active in civic affairs and a church officer.

Glenn H. Suiter Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Farmers Savings Bank and LeClaire State Bank.

INTERNATIONAL CORPORATIONS

Paul D. Dennis, Jr. Vice President of Finance and Administration of Davy-McKee Corp. of Lakeland, Florida, and Houston, Texas. Director of GDM, Davy-McKee, Ingeneria, C.A., Caracas, Venezuela, all subsidiaries of Davy International of Great Britain. Member of Florida State Legal Grievance Committee.

Richard D. Dennis Retired as Start-up Works Manager of Alcoa's Rolling Mills in Swansea, Wales. Now Superintendent of Logan Rolling Mills of Russellville, Kentucky, a division of Atlantic-Richfield.

- P. Dennis



Here are some popular wittisms found in several school autograph books in the Princeton area, most date 1872-1899. -P.Miller

"Think for thyself, one good idea
But known to be thy own,
Is better than a thousand, gleaned.
From fields by others sown."

"When the golden sun is setting,
And your mind from cares are free,
Won't you sometimes think of me?"

"May you always be happy,
And live at your ease.
Get a kind husband,
And do as you please."

"What? Write in your album,
For critics to spy,
For the learned to laugh at?
No not I!"

"When you are far away
And no more can see,
Put on your specks
And think of me!"

"Within this book so pure & white,
Let none but friends
Presume to write.
And may each live
With Friendship given
Direct the readers
Thoughts to heaven."

"Some friends may wish thee happiness,
Some others wish thee wealth,
My wish for thee is better far,
Contentment, Blest with health."

"May all your days be spent in bliss.
May all your plans succeed.
Be as happy as I wish
And you'll be happy indeed."

"As you sail down life's journey,
In a little light canoe,
May you have a pleasant journey,
With plenty of room for two."

"Be a good girl
Live a good life
Marry _____
And be a good wife."

"I love coffee, I love tea,
I love you, If you love me!"

"The taller the tree,
The tighter the bark,
The harder the girl
Is to spark!"

"When you go east
And I go west,
Remember me
Among the rest."

"Forget me not
Forget me never
Until my eyes
Are closed forever."

"A day for toil,
An hour for sport,
But for a friend,
Life is too short."

"Think of me dear _____
When the long years have fled.
When you are gay and happy
And I perhaps dead."

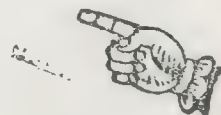
"Love many, Trust few
And always paddle
Your own Canoe."

"The sun shines warm.
The snow is deep.
This is so funny.
You'll laugh
Till you weep."

"In memories golden chain,
Let one link bear my name."

"If these lines excepted be,
Read them through
And think of me.
But if these lines
You should regret.
Blot them out and me forget."

"We reap what we sow.
Oh! Wonderful truth!
A thing hard to learn
In the days of our youth.
But it shines out at last,
Like the "Hand on the Wall"
For God has his "Debit & Credit"
For us all."



THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY, ASTOR LENOX TILDEN FOUNDATION, 405 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 17, N.Y.

The report of the Catholic Church in regard to the situation of the Negro people in the South is a very interesting one. It is a report which is well known to all who are interested in the Negro problem. It is a report which is well known to all who are interested in the Negro problem.

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OUR LADY OF THE RIVER CATHOLIC CHURCH, LECLAIRE & PRINCETON

Twice before the establishment of St. Henry Mission Parish in LeClaire, Catholic services were instituted there. Each time, however, obstacles were too difficult to overcome and the attempts were abandoned. On October 6, 1935, however, the church was dedicated by Bishop Henry P. Rohlfman, after whose patron saint the church was named. Again, a building which previously had served as a Protestant Church, was used. The establishment of St. Henry's was largely the result of the efforts of Fr. Mell G. Morrin, who served as pastor until 1941.

Over the years since the establishment, the two mission parishes were served by a number of priests. After Fr. Morrin, St. Henry's was served by Fr. Raymond J. Murphy (1941-1943), Fr. Carroll A. McGivern (1943-1945), Fr. John P. Dolan (1945-1947), and Fr. Francis W.J. Duncan (1947-1949). St. James was served by Fr. Cletus Zembrodt (1923-1927), Fr. Morin (1927-1937), Fr. Lawrence H. Mork (1937-1946), Fr. Thomas J. Taylor (1946-1952 and 1954-1958), Fr. Anthony L. Conrad (1952-1953 and 1958-1969), and Fr. Duncan (1953-1954). all of these priests were full-time teachers at St. Ambrose College and Academy in Davenport. The number of Catholics in the area grew over the years, to the point where it became feasible for a single parish with a resident pastor to serve the entire area. This area includes approximately 80 square miles of Upper Scott County.

Answering the unanimous request of members of both parishes, on June 1, 1969 Bishop Gerald O'Keefe merged St. Henry Catholic Church of LeClaire and St. James Catholic Church of Princeton into Our Lady of the River Catholic Church and assigned Father Anthony Conrad its first pastor. Members of the new parish elected the following members to serve on the first Parish Council: Arman Aranda, Wayne Cheramy, Ray Doyle, Mrs. Harold (Betty) Ehrecke, Mrs. Gerald (Audrey) Heidgerken, Gene Holst, Don Moench, Mrs. Alfred (JO) Wellendorf. William Niebruegge and Bruce Gaylor were appointed Lay Directors. at the time of the merging, there were about 80 families active in the two churches.

Within a short time it became apparent that the two small church buildings were inadequate for the needs of the growing parish.

In 1971, the Parish Council decided to begin investigating the possibility of building a parish center between LeClaire and Princeton. With the approval of Bishop O'Keefe, a 5-acre tract of land was purchased on a bluff overlooking the Mississippi River. Plans were developed for the parish center, a multi-purpose building to include the pastor's residence. Later, however the tract was sold and October 15, 1972, another 5-acre tract was purchased at the foot of the bluff, midway between the two towns. Building plans were adapted to the new site. Gerald H. Miller, of Bracke, Hayes &

Miller, was chosen as the architect to draw the plans for the buildings, the plans were later modified for the new site.

Ground breaking ceremonies were held by Bishop O'Keefe, assisted by Fr. P. McGrath, Dean of the Davenport Deanery, on November 5, 1972. Fr. McGrath blessed the cornerstone of the nearly completed Worship Educational and Social Center on October 7, 1973 and concelebrated the opening Mass with the pastor, Fr. Conrad. The buildings, to serve the needs of the now 100-family parish, was dedicated on May 19, 1974. The construction of the building was contracted to Starr Homes of Moline, Illinois, but much of the interior finish work was done by parishoners.

Fr. Conrad served as pastor until 1975 when he was briefly followed by Fr. R. Doyle in 1976 Fr. James P. Conroy is pastor.



JOYCE MAKE A NEW CONTENT PAGE

~~Dorothy Adit?~~

~~picture of Zion Church~~

* A STORY ABOUT THE MAKING OF ~~THE~~
FROM OUT OF THE PAST

— Having bought the J. D. DENNIS STORE
IN 1971 — I ~~STARTED~~ CORRESPONDING WITH
Paul Dennis in 1980 to find out the date
of construction — He asked me to manage
the sale of his book in ~~1980~~ 1983.
We had 90 copies that sold out immediately.
I continued to corres. with Mr. Dennis
till his death. He left the rights
3 his book to the "Princeton Days"
committee as a ~~fund~~ ^{future} fund raiser
and wrote 20? more stories and
provided me with ideas for an
other edition.

In that last (13) years I have gathered
other stories "from the Past" from
local residence. I personally have no
ties to Princeton other than it has been
my home for over 25 years and ~~as~~ I HAVE
AN avid interest in history.

index

more detailed family histories about
~~Prin~~ early Princeton residents can be
found in History of Sect. (1892?)

JOHN BRAGONIER

Louis Blockmann

~~Mr~~ John + MELVINA POPE Fanning

Joseph Heble
DANIEL + JANE HIRE
H.C. GAST

JOHN KNOX, M.D.
MRS. DOROTHY GRUM LIEBERENZ
CHARLES W. PINNED

MR + MRS. ~~IA~~ ISAAC POPE

MRS. ANNA CHRISTINA WOOLENHAUPT SCHMALZ

MR. ~~THOMAS~~ THOMAS (JANE HIRE THOMAS)

SAMUEL B. YOUNG

Scharlotte Blevins book 1992

TRACY WILLIAM FREEMAN

Roy Holst

August FRANK + ANNA DORATHEA DRESCHLER

FRANK JOSEPH + MARGARET MARIE DRESCHLER

CHARLES C. LEAMER

ART WILLIAM SHAW

Soltan Family

PEITSCHER FAMILY

Also pages 56 - 58

FROM OUT OF THE PAST
~~A SESQUICENTENNIAL TRIBUTE~~
AND PRINCETON SCRAPBOOK
(A HISTORY OF PRINCETON, IOWA)

"A PRINCETON SCRAPBOOK"

))))))))))))))))))

(MODERN HISTORY OF PRINCETON, IOWA)
1900 - 2000

ADDEDUMS TO ^{B.} Paul Dennis
"FROM OUT OF THE PAST"
1976, 83, 1986

~~Class on later?~~

* FROM OUT OF THE PAST *

A ^A SESQUICENTENNIAL TRIBUTE AND PRINCETON SCRAPBOOK

A HISTORY OF PRINCETON, IOWA

delete

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Addendums ~~1983 and 1986~~

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Compiled by Penelope Miller
Addendum ~~1997~~ copyright

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Louis Goller
Al and June Grosz
Mrs. Herbert (Edna) Holst
Julie Jenson
Penelope Cutkomp Miller
Roberta McLaughlin (Mrs. David)
Jim Renkes
Mrs. Anna Beuse Schmidt
Mrs. Elaine Schultz
Alan Shaw
Mrs. Lloyd (Bessie) Sierk
Mrs. Elma ("Tib") Elliott Steward
Glen Suiter
Bill Wundram
other newspaper writers?

leave space here!

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Mrs. ^{Arlene} Eckling	4390	2
Vera Doyle	5834	1
Helen Holst	5014	1
Reube Decker	3410	1
Sandy Martinez	4013	1
L. HAVEN Hill	4278	1
Glen Suter	5311	1
Steve Suter	3512	1
Bernita Anderson / LeClaire		1

PREFACE

Little has been written about the Princeton area during the past century. It is not the intention of the writer here to repeat what already has been written.

These pages are dedicated to the pupils of the Virgil Grissom School. It was through their desire to learn more about places and events of the past that furnished the inspiration for this book.

Paul B. Dennis

Mr. Paul Dennis died in 1988, we were pen pals for about 8 years, and I was the agent for his revised book in 1983. Mr. Dennis wrote 20 more stories before his death and donated all of his Princeton writings to the Princeton Days Committee for future publishing. Although I never met Mr. Dennis, he was an inspiration to me in completing this project.

-1996-
In this Iowa sesquicentennial year, I will establish a history room at the Princeton Library for future generations. Mr. Dennis' letters will be on display, also, other historical items I have collected.

I moved to Princeton on my 21st birthday (February 1st), 1971. I do not have relatives in this area but have adopted this town as my own and have a great love for it's people and the river.

Penelope (Penne) Miller

(Another excellent book on Princeton history was written by Dorothy B. Lage in 1987, called, "Princeton, Iowa, A Two-Rivers Township") -P.M.

From out of the Past
~~Out of the Distant Past~~ correction...

article "Indian mound" page 6

Part of this artical has proved to be untrue, as zebra's were never in this area. In 1996 I talked to the State Archeologist, Doug Jones, who said, "Zebras never made it Iowa."

But another rumour surfaced in my research. It seems that an old jokester who lived on Fifth Street had years before buried several old drafthorses on this location. Who knows?

An archeologist at the Putnam Museum in Davenport said the early "archeologists" in our area were mainly "unschooled" and did more harm than good, in most cases, in early digs.

The Indian mound story is valid and some of the artifacts are still at the Putnam Museum. Skeletons that were found were shipped to Des Moines

-Penelope Miller

A little bit of Princeton's history

The following article was part of a column by August P. Richter included in a 1924 edition of the Daily Times.

About 20 miles by river, above Davenport, and about three miles below where the Wapsie unites its destiny with the majestic Mississippi, the spur of the bluff known in early times as Pinnacle Point juts out into the river some rods beyond the adjacent shores. From this point LeClaire and Port Byron, five miles below on the river banks, are distinctively seen, and above for several miles a magnificent view is had of islands, bluffs and river, and the town of Cordova on the Illinois side.

Here two hamlets had risen around a few big business buildings, the nuclei of future greatness. The older of them was still known as the The Point, while the younger, about a quarter of a mile above, was named Elizabeth City. The principal founders of the "city" were Robert Pope, Thomas and Goodrich Hubbard, Dr. Judd, W. J. Marshall, and a few others. Subsequently, small tracts were

laid off in building lots. The two places grew nearer to each other, and by a consolidation of the several plats were finally united under the name of Princeton.

The Town of Princeton was incorporated by the legislature of Iowa, by act of Jan. 29, 1857. It was one of the last towns or cities incorporated individually. The new state constitution drafted in March, 1857, and approved by the people in August and becoming effective in October of that year, forbade the incorporation by special law of new municipalities. At the first election, in March, Mr. Samuel Porter was elected mayor. For a perhaps, good reason he saw fit, after a couple of months, to resign, and Mr. William Shaw was elected to fill the remainder of the term. At that time the population was about 250.

By that incorporation of Princeton, Elizabeth City passed from view and existed only in memory and in the records at the courthouse of Scott county. Albeit the site of Elizabeth City has ever been the most populous

part of the new town. At the period named corner lots were in lively demand and reached the highest figures of supposed value. But the effect of the great financial crash of 1857 and succeeding years was felt in Princeton as it was in Davenport and Chicago.

In time, however, the ill consequences of that panic disappeared and the future brightened again. By 1867 the town had about a thousand inhabitants. There were two hotels, the Leslie House kept by James Leslie, and the Davenport House, by F. G. Eisleben. Dry goods and grocery stores were conducted by Gordon Bros., Sam Scott, Asa Hooper, James W. Suiter, H. H. Hurlburt, C. C. Lerraine, and David Miller; harnessmakers, W. G. Martine and G. B. Moyer; shoemakers, B. Metzger and Hardt & Co.; tin shops, W. D. and J. W. Davis and Asa Hooper; blacksmiths, Hy Couser, John Reed, M. Moore and Sam Williams; wagonmaker, H. G. King; agricultural implements, Chas. Rich; livery stable, J. Fanning; painter, B. Bigelow; tailors, Christ Schmalz and Jacob

Princeton history

Continued from page 3

Eurich; druggists, J. W. Parcell and W. F. Culbertson; physicians, Dr. Samuel Knox and Dr. Blackburn. There was a fine grist mill owned by I. J. Pinneo. Five grain warehouses, one owned by Samul Scott, two by Robt. Pope, and two by H. H. Hurlburt, gathered the produce of the farmers and shipped it by ferry to Cordova and thence over the railroad to the markets. A steam, saw mill owned by Isaac Hess and L. S. Chamberlin, and a planing mill by J. W. Walker and A. Patterson, were among the industrial establishments of Princeton.

Then followed a period of standstill with occasional retrogression. Enterprise and civic spirit were vanishing. While in the first years of municipal life there was an annual rotation in offices, indicating much interest in and watchfulness over public affairs, an increasing indifference had taken hold of the citizenry. So on January 15, 1878, an election was held for the purpose of determining whether or not the old charter and city organization should be abandoned. The result was almost unanimous in favor of a change to the state under the general corporation law. It was eight years since the last municipal election was held, and since then the streets had been left to take care of themselves and become a mass of rotteness. A special election was then held on January 27 for the purpose of choosing new offices to hold their positions until the regular election in March. These short term officers were: Mayor, W. H. Thompson; trustees, S. J. Underwood, Harry Garber, H. H. Hall, D. H. Culbertson and G. H.

Martin; recorder, Dr. C. W. Knott. At the next regular election, the following were elected: Mayor, D. H. Culvertson; trustees, John Walker, S. J. Underwood, J. A. Hire, R. H. Pope and H. H. Hall; recorder, J. P. Darrah; street commissioner, Hy Garber; police magistrate, W. H. Thompson.

Like in the other towns along the right bank of the Mississippi, there was an intense desire of having a railroad connection with Davenport and Clinton, and several times the citizens of Princeton voted a special tax in aid of such a railroad. But they had to wait patiently a long time until in 1899 the Davenport, Rock Island & Northwestern railroad was built, which is operated by the C., M. & St. P. and C., B. & Q. railroad companies. And five years thereafter the Iowa & Illinois interurban railway afforded additional accommodation.

A bank, the Princeton Savings bank, was organized in 1904. Carelessness on the part of the cashier in bookkeeping brought about an examination of the affairs by the state authorities, and the bank was closed about New Year's, 1908. But after its business was wound up, a new bank was organized, named the Princeton Farmers' Savings bank. Its first board of directors was composed of J. H. Schaff, J. D. Dennis, Andrew H. Schmalz, Emil Kroeger, S. A. Wilson, C. A. McCarn and C. W. Pinneo. Princeton being a lively shipping place for stock and grain, the bank is doing a prosperous business.

A new page in the history of the town was added when in the fall of 1910, during the administration of Mayor James R. Pope, an election was held on the ques-

tion of lighting the streets by electricity, the current to be furnished by the interurban railway. The vote was overwhelmingly in favor of the proposition, and on December 22 the current was turned on. The streets were filled with men and women, in appreciation of the event.

The town administration in 1924 is composed as follows: M. L. Hire, mayor; L. G. Suiter, John Scott, Dr. Geo. Cusick, Theo. Dubois and E. L. Slaughter, councilmen; B. L. Morgan and R. A. Strong, assessor.

Taken From

History of Scott County Iowa

1882

Princeton Township:

Jurgen Holst, farmer and stock-raiser, was born in Holstein Germany, on the 7th day of September, 1846, son of Jurgen and Magdelina (Tieja) Holst, natives of Germany, who emigrated to the United States in 1858 coming by steamer via New York, to Princeton, where he purchased the place where Mr. Holst now resides, of 200 acres, where he remained until his death, which occurred Feb 12, 1879. Mrs. Holst died October 12, 1880. The subject of this sketch came to the States when he was 12 years of age; was reared on a farm and received a limited school education. In August 1879, married Dora Hubbel. She was born in Germany, May 8, 1851. By this union there are five children, four of whom are living, viz.: George, Henry, Caroline, Gustave (Thomas born later). Has 250 acres of land, 240 acres under a high state of cultivation, valued at \$50 per acre. His farm is decorated with a beautiful residence and large and accordions barns and out buildings, and is one of the large and well-to-do farmers of the county.

Princeton Township

Princeton is the most northern township of Scott County, lying along the river, the first permanent settlement of which was made in the spring of 1836.

Giles M. Pinneo and Haswell H. Pinneo located their claims in the fall of 1835, and moved on them as permanent settlers in the spring of 1836. George W. Harlan had located some claims prior to this for speculative purposes, but with no thought of settlement. Giles M. Pinneo settled where he now resided on section 34, while Haswell made his claim upon which a portion of the village of Princeton was subsequently located. Many of the early settlers will remember his neat hewed log cabin, and the welcome there extended to all who might choose to call and test the hospitality of its owner. He died many years since, enjoying the respect of all who knew him.

Thomas Hubbard, Sr., who had been living on the opposite side of the river since the close of the Black Hawk war, in the spring of 1836 moved over and settled on what is not a part of the city of Princeton. The Pinneos and Mr. Hubbard were the only settlers during the year 1836.

Thomas Hubbard was from Kentucky; had severed in the Black Hawk war, and seemed to have much of the old Kentucky hatred for Indians. While settled upon the Illinois side of the river, he had frequent raids made upon him by the red skins, which were repelled in true pioneer spirit. The Indians were in the habit of stealing from him such few articles of "animal civilization" as he was able to gather around him, such as fowls, hogs and cattle. He had procured some bees from the forest, which at that time were plenty, when one day on his return to his cabin he found that they had been robbed by the Indians. He was soon

upon their trail with his rifle, and came up with them as they were leaving the shore in their canoes. He fired upon them, when the fire was returned, Hubbard taking to a tree for shelter. Several shots were passed and one Indian was killed. Many other skirmishes were often related by the old man of his exploits with the red skins. He return to Kentucky and there died many years ago.

Between the years 1836 and 1840 cam Daniel Hire, Benjamin F. Pike, Jesse R. James, Samuel Sturtivant, John B. Doty, Benjamin Doolittle, Jonas Barber, Jacob Rose, Abijah Goodrich, Mr. Sweet, Avery D. Pinneo, Gideon Averill, William Palmer, Franklin Rowe, Sterling Parkhurst, Matthias L. Pinneo, Samuel Gast, George Gast, Susanna Gast, Issac Daughenbaugh, John Leamer, Polly Leamer, Samuel S. Gast, John A. Gast, Wm. Gast, Henry Shadle, Mary A. Shadle, Jacob Fulmer and Christina Fulmer.

From 1840 settlement was slow in the township for 10 years, when for a time settlers came in quite rapidly. The township now has 300 voters.

In the first settlement of Princeton Township, like all other pioneer places, families underwent many privations. Supplies of every kind, except wild meat, had to be obtained from Fort Armstrong, on Rock Island. These were taken up by water over the rapids in Indian canoes. It was but little they were able to purchase, and all that was expected in those days were the bare necessities of life. A story is told at one of the Pinneos making a journey to Davenport, after it became settled and a store has been established, with a lot of beans in order to exchange them for goods to make clothing for his family. It was bitter cold weather, and on the way he had an attack of the ague. He exchanged his beans with much difficulty at 25 cents per bushel, heaping measure and good their "five-cent" calico at the rate of 35 cents per yard. These were the beginnings of some of those who settled in this township. But brighter days have dawned, and many of the old settlers now enjoy the fruits of early toil, and are no more placed under the necessity of "planning and contriving" to secure the little necessary to eke out an existence.

Benjamin F. Pike came up from Rockingham in the spring of 1838, and brought with him a small stock of goods, which as the first store of any kind in the township.

The first frame house built in the township was in 1837, by Daniel Hire. In the spring of 1838 Benjamin Doolittle established the first public ferry across the Wapsipinecon River, on the road from Davenport to Comanche. Jonas Barber built a steam mill this year, the first of any kind in the township. Jacob Rose also built a distillery this year. The first children born were Henry Hire, Thomas Doty and Albert Pinneo. The first deaths in the township were Mrs. Mary Sweet and Mrs. Lucy Goodrich.

The Methodist circuit rider at an early day penetrated the township and was followed from time to time by representatives of various denominations. There are now three represented in the township by organizations - Methodist Episcopal, Presbyterian and Lutheran. The latter organization is at Lost Grove. In 1853 three members of the Methodist Episcopal church, Porter, McKinster, Jerry Goodrich and James Todd, assisted by their friends and neighbors, erected a brick church edifice, 26x36 feet. After holding services in this church about three years, the organization was transferred to Princeton, its three principal members having died meanwhile. On the 10th of February 1856, Rev. Daniel

Garber, a minister of the Evangelical Lutheran church at Davenport, came to the township and organized a congregation of that faith.

On Saturday, May 8, a meeting was held for the election of officers. Isaac Doughenbaugh was elected elder, and Samuel Gast, deacon. The first Meetings were held at the brick church, erected by the Methodists, and which they continued to use as the property of that denomination until 1859, when they built a house of worship in the town of Princeton, at the cost of \$565, which they exchanged with the Methodists for their church edifice at Lost Grove, where they yet worship.

Rev. Daniel Garber was the first pastor. He supplied the church until March 10, 1857, when Rev. F. R. Shearer was called and served until 1869, with success, with the exception of one year (1858). In 1869 Rev. George W. Shaffer supplied the pulpit during the time he had a revival and 14 additions to the church. Mr. Chaffer continued with the church until November 1878, when Rev. J. L. Hammond assumed the pastorate. Regular services of the church are held every Sabbath. The present membership is 52. The present officers are as follows: Samuel Heleman and J.A. Gast, elders; Adam McCoy and John Shaffer, deacons.

The Sabbath school was first organized by the Methodist Episcopal brethren in 1853. The first superintendent was Daniel Conrad, a local M.E. preacher from LeClaire; secretary and librarian, James Todd. In 1856 the Lutheran congregation took charge of the school, electing Dr. Samuel Gast, of Princeton, and superintendent, J.L. Gast, secretary and librarian. The present superintendent is Rev. E. Hammond, assistant superintendent W. E. Gast, secretary, William Hammond, assistant superintendent, W. E. Gast, secretary, William Hammond, librarian G.C. Gast. There are now 80 pupils enrolled, with an average attendance of 60.

Public Schools

The men who first settled this township being young men without families, it was for some time unnecessary to have schools, but as soon as children were reared large enough to attend, the parents provided schools as good as their limited means, both of money and ability in teachers, could afford. The first school that was kept in what is now known as Princeton Independent District, was taught in the year 1846 or '47, by Miss Hannah Peaslee, in the same house where Mrs. Charles Budd and Milcah Goodrich. About 1850, a bitter dispute having arisen as to where a proposed schoolhouse should be located, the quarrel was carried so far that the project for building at all had for a time to be abandoned. In the meantime G.H. Pinneo and Wilbur Warren being determined to have a school for their children, joined together and bought an old barn, added some limber to it, and with their own hands constructed a house that was used for some time for both school and church purposes. In 1852 a house 25 x 35 now known as the old schoolhouse was built in the town, costing \$375, and was then thought to be quite extravagant. The first teacher in this house was Mathias D. Pinneo. In 1856 it was found that the title to the land on which this house was built was not good. So the heirs of the land made a compromise with the district by buying lot No. 2, block 18, and building another house exactly like the old one on this lot. This house was used for school purposes till 1864, when this school and the other schools in town were consolidated and occupied the upper and lower stories of a hall on Front Street. In 1862, under an act that had been recently passed, what had formerly been known as

District No. 1, Princeton Township, was erected into an independent district. The first president of the independent district was Samuel Scott; first secretary, A. H. Pinneo; and treasurer, D. H. Culbertson. Mr. Culbertson has been treasurer ever since. In 1866 it was determined to build a house suitable for school purposes, and the contract was awarded to the firm of Walker & Patterson, for \$4,500. C. W. Pinneo was the first principal in this house, and has been ever since, except two years G. J. Boyd and two years J. S. Huey taught. The present teachers are C. W. Pinneo, principal; W. L. Calhoun, intermediate, and D. E. James, primary. Miss Peaslee, the first teacher in this district, received a salary of \$1.75 per week and boarded around. The present female teacher receives \$9 per week. \$20 per month was the highest wages paid to a male teacher previous to the year 1858, when the law-requiring teacher to stand an examination before a county superintendent went into force. The wages very soon advanced when some qualifications were required, and greatly added to the efficiency of the schools. The number at present is about 150 scholars in all the departments, and the schools are considered quite satisfactory in their management.

Princeton Township has six sub-districts, valued at \$5,500. The town of Princeton is an independent district, with a stone schoolhouse valued at \$5,000. There are 189 pupils in the district with an enrollment of 98. Three teachers are employed, and the school is a graded one.

Town of Princeton

The first recorded plan of Princeton bears date Dec. 22, 1953. Robert Bell, George H. Bell and John Culbertson were the proprietors. The beginning of a town had been made prior to this.

In the spring of 1838 B. F. Pike opened a store in the neighborhood, the first in the township. A company known as "Lawyer Hammond & Co" opened the next store. In 1848 W. F. Breckenridge opened a store here, calling the place at that time "Pinnacle Point."

The city of Princeton was incorporated January 1857, and in the month of March following the first charter election was held. Samuel Porter was elected the first mayor and resigned in May. At a special election held soon after, William Shaw was elected mayor to fill the vacancy. At this time the city contained about 150 inhabitants, one store kept by Walter & Armstrong, two public houses, one smith shop, one steam saw mill, one church and forty-six dwelling houses.

In the month of March 1858, William H. Thompson was elected mayor. This year the population of the place had increased to 500. The improvements were greater in the youthful city of Princeton than at any other point on the Mississippi River, for the number of inhabitants. This year there was built one steam saw mill, by Isaac Sherman, from Cleveland, Ohio, at a cost of \$8,000, capable of cutting 30,000 feet per day; two steam grist-mills, one by McKinstry & Hubbard, at a cost of \$12,000; one by Herbert & Fishback, at a cost of \$9,000, though the firm failed before completing it. D.D. McCoy built a large house and opened a fancy dry goods store. This season there were 62 dwellings built, among which was one by Dr. G. L. Bell, which cost about \$5,000.

In March 1859, Dr. Thomas Galt was elected mayor. This year the population had reached 1,000, but, owing to the hard times, there was not so much improvement as the

previous year. Walker & Patterson built a steam planing mill, with all the improved machinery for making sash, doors and blinds, which was a great benefit to the place and surrounding country, besides being remunerative to its enterprising projectors. F. G. Welch built a large three-story building for a dry-goods store, but did not live to enjoy his enterprising undertaking. R. Bennett also erected a large store and opened a good stock of dry goods and groceries, and with the assistance of A. Kierney started a tin shop. This year the Presbyterians erected their church edifice. Dr. Galt erected a fine brick residence, 36 x 40, two stories and a half high, and finished in the latest style. At this time there were 15 carpenters, six blacksmiths, four shoemakers, two tailors, one tinker, livery stable, two steam saw-mills, two steam grist-mills, one steam planing-mill, two carriage shops, four blacksmith shops, two public schools, two private schools, one lawyer.

Princeton was now in the height of its glory, everything being prosperous, with a fair opportunity of becoming one of the most flourishing towns upon the river. Early in 1860, a local writer thus spoke of it:

"Princeton now bids fair to outrival some of her more successful neighbors. By the fourth of July 1860, there will be a direct communication with Chicago by railroad. The iron for the Sterling & Rock Island Road is contracted for, and a portion of it will be delivered this winter. The balance will be delivered as soon as the ice leaves the river, as it comes by the way of New Orleans. The road when finished, will be 36 miles nearer Chicago than by the Chicago & Rock Island Road; 56 miles nearer Chicago, from this place than by way of Davenport. There has also been \$27,500 of the stock taken and secured by the citizens of Princeton, by bond and mortgage, of the Sterling & Rock Island Road. There is a great opening for manufactures by waterpower. There is a chance of securing waterpower of 17-1/2 feet fall with the outlay of \$30,000. By tapping the Wapispinecon River about four miles above this place, the water can be brought into the city at any desired point with the above amount of fall. The survey has been made by scientific engineers, and the results as stated is therefore unquestionable. We prophesy that at no very distant day the city of Princeton will be one of the most flourishing towns upon the Mississippi River. It has the material in and around it, and its enterprising inhabitants will allow no opportunity to pass unimproved, that will tend to advance the interests of their thriving and beautiful city."

But, alas, for the expectations of its friends, the glorious prospects of 1860 have been permitted to vanish away; the population of the town has decreased three-fourths, and the Princeton of 1882 will not compare with the Princeton of 1860. Yet there is hope for the town. With a good situation, convenient to the great markets, with energy and pluck, the old-time prosperity may be revived and a glorious future awaits it.

Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church is located at Lost Grove, in Princeton Township, Scott Co., Iowa. It was organized by F. R. Shearer, Jan. 25, 1852, with the following members, viz.: J.C. Rice, John L. Gast and Margaret Gast, his wife; Dr. S. Gast and Angeline, his wife; A. Earhart and Catharine Earhart, his wife; H.C. Gast and Sarah Gast, his wife; J.A. Gast and Matilda Gast. At this time Reverend F.R. Shearer resided in Winchester, Van Buren Co., Iowa and visited the infant organization in the following June. A few years after this, the Reverend G.W. Scheidee, of Philadelphia, Penn., became pastor of the congregation, but did

not serve them one year. Some time after this the Rev. D. Garner, of Davenport, supplied them occasionally, but being desirous to visit Egypt, Arabia and the Holy Land, he resigned his charge in Davenport, left for the above purpose leaving the congregation without a shepherd for some years. On the 15th of November 1856, the Rev. F.R. Shearer took permanent charge of the congregation at a call of \$250 per annum for one-third of his time, there being at this time but 11 members in the organization, but few of them of the original organization. The following March he held a series of meetings and added 16 members to the church; and about a year from that time 24 more, additions to the membership at various times increasing the membership 10 63. During F.R. Shearer's labors of 11 years in that congregation he added 63 members, which, with the original membership, made 74 in number. November 1858, the congregation gave him a call for all the time at a salary of \$350 and a parsonage, which he accepted and labored a few years when he began to missionate at Morristown, Henry Co., Ill., where is devoted a part of his time for four years until they built him a church, 36x58, 18 feet high, and finished it off in complete order. Although here never were 50 members belonging to that church, they support their own pastor and have built a very neat parsonage. During his labors at Salem church they have always had a good Sabbath school, which has been, conducted a number of years by J.L. Gast.

Mount Pleasant Evangelical Lutheran Church

By F. R. Scherer

The writer organized this congregation in May 1962, with 14 members, who had previously held their church connection at Salem's Church. From the time of our location here in 1856, we had preached in "Jones' school-house" every two or three weeks, and at other convenient points, for the accommodation of the above members who were too far from the church to attend regularly there.

Cleona Township

Gothardt Moeller (5-24-1826) in Mecklenburg, Germany. Married Mary Westphal in 1852. Children: Charles (1854); Anna (1856) married Albert Vamer; Earnest (1959) and Herman (1861)

Charles Moeller (6-15-1852). Married Frederica Smallbeldt on 2-17-1877. Children: Mattie (8-31-1879 and Herman (5-8-1880).

Earnest E. Moeller was born April-1858 in Cleona Township, Scott County, son of Gothardt. Married Laura Wiese (2-27-1880) they had one child on Feb 27, 1881.

Herman D. Moeller was born December 24, 1861 in Cleona Township, Scott County, son of Gothardt. Married Tracy Stoltenburg on Mar 23, 1881.

Hans Wiese (9-2-1825) born in Holstein, Germany, emigrated and landed in New Orleans on June 8, 1847. He married Trona Tierfoeldt on 9-2-1860. Children: Laura, now Mrs. Ernest Moeller and Amelia.

City of Davenport

John Holst, born in Hamburg, Germany (4-11-1816). Married Mary Downey in 1840 of Barnslow, Ireland. They had two children, James and John, both dying at a young age of

"A Princeton Scrapbook"

(Modern History of Princeton, Iowa)
1900-2000

^{psu}
Addendum to Dave B. Dennis
"From out of the Past"
1976, 1983, 1986

A Princeton Scrapbook

A History of Princeton, Iowa

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Compiled by Penelope Miller

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Additional stories by:

Al and June Grosz

Alan Shaw

Bill Wundram

Glen Suiter

Jim Arpy

Jim Renkes

Julie Jenson

Louis Goller

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Enyeart

Mrs. Anna Beuse Schmidt

Mrs. Earl (Joyce) Brockhouse

Mrs. Elaine Schultz

Mrs. Elma ("Tib") Elliott Steward

Mrs. Frank Erfling

Mrs. Herbert (Edna) Holst

Mrs. Lloyd (Bessie) Sierk

Mrs. Paul (Ann) Geiger

Penelope Cutkomp Miller

Roberta McLaughlin (Mrs. David)

Shirley Davis

Thank you for the loan of photos to:

Merlin Boll

Paul B. Dennis Family

North Scott Press

Quad Cities Times (The Democrat)

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Mrs. Anna Beuse Schmidt

Mrs. Elaine Schulz

Alan Shaw

Al Preis

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Woomert

Mr. and Mrs. David McLaughlin

Mr. And Mrs. Russell Enyeart

Mr. Al Pries

Russell Litscher Estate

Index

More detailed family histories about early Princeton residents can be found in History of Scott (1892)

John Bragonier
Louis Brockmann
John and Melvina Pope Fanning
Joseph Heble
Daniel and Jane Hire
H.C. Gast
John Knox M.D.
Mrs. Dorothy Grum Lieberenz
Charles W. Pinned
Mr. and Mrs. Isaal Pope
Mrs. Anna Christina Woolenhaupt Schman
Mr. Thomas (Jane Hire Thomas)
Samuel B. Yohn

Scharlotte Blerius Book 1992

Tracy William Freeman
Roy Holst
August Frank and Anna Dorathea Dresch
Frank Joseph and Mildred Marie Dreshler
Charles L. Leamer
Art William Shaw
Soltan Family
Peitscher Family
Also pages 56 -58

Preface

Mr. Paul Dennis died in 1988, we were pen pals for about 8 years, and I was the agent for his revised book in 1983. Mr. Dennis wrote 20 or more stories before his death and donated all of his Princeton writings to the Princeton Days Committee for future publishing. Although I never met Mr. Dennis, he was an inspiration to me in completing this project.

In this Iowa Sesquicentennial year, 1996, I will establish a history room at the Princeton Library for future generations. Mr. Dennis' letters will be on display, also, other historical items I have collected.

I moved to Princeton on my 21st birthday (February 1st), 1971. I do not have relatives in this area but have adopted this town as my own and have a great love for its people and the river.

Penelope (Penne) Miller

(Another excellent book on Princeton History was written by Dorothy B. Lage in 1987 called, "Princeton, Iowa – A Two-Rivers Township")

- P.M.

From out of the Past correction...
Article "Indian Mound" Page 6

Part of this article has proved to be untrue, as zebra's were never in this area. In 1996, I talked to the State Archeologist, Doug Jones, who said, "Zebras never made it to Iowa".

But another rumor surfaced in my research. It seems that an old jokester who lived on Fifth Street had years before buried several old draft horses on this location. Who knows?

An archeologist at the Putnam Museum in Davenport said the early "archeologists" in our area were mainly "unschooled" and did more harm than good, in most cases, in early digs.

The Indian mound story is valid and some of the artifacts are still at the Putnam Museum. Skeletons that were found were shipped to Des Moines.

- Penelope Miller

1857 - Samuel Porter
1857 - William Shaw
1858 - William H. Thompson
1859 - Dr. Thomas Galt
1859 - 1869 no record, possibly it still was Dr. Galt
1870 - 1877 W.H. Thompson Recorder: C.W. Knoff
1878 - D.H. Culbertson " C.W. Knoff
1879 - Dr. John Knox " J.E. Danah
1880 - Dr. John Knox " O.W. Hogan
1881 - J.B. Parcell, Treasurer: Dr.Knox " O.W. Hogan
1882 - Dr. John Knox " O.W. Hogan
1883 - Dr. John Knox " O.W. Hogan
1884 - Dr. John Knox " L.W. Pinneo
1885-87 Dr. John Knox " L.W. Pinneo
1888 - Theodore DuBois " M.L. Hire
1888 - City Council: J.W. Walker, W.W. Baxter, Benjamin Metzger,
D.W. Ney, H.H. Hull, S.B. Yohn.
1888 - Town Marshall: J.H. Moss
1889 - Same as above with H.C. Chapman added to council
1890 - Dr. John Knox Recorder: D.W. Ney
City Council: L.B. Woomert, L.M. Hire, H.C. Chapman, H.C. Wallace,
1891 - H.C. Chapman H.H. Hull.
City Council: J.A. Hire, B. Metzger Sr., J.G. Heble, J.E. Darrall
Recorder: D.W. Ney - Town Marshall: Ed Moss
1892 - H.C. Chapman Recorder: D.W. Ney
City Council: J.A. Hire, M.L. Hire, W.W. Baxter, Theo. DuBois
S.B. Yohn, H.H. Hull, J.G. Heble
MAY 2nd, 1892 - An ordinance was made to restrain horses and
cattle from running at large.
NOVEMBER 11th, 1892 - Establishment of a street to be known as:
The Davenport and Camanche Road
Names on the petition:
E.L. Slaughter, Frank Chandler, Charles Rook, L.R. Walker, H. Moor
J.B. Gilbert, C.W. Pinneo, Jas. A Hire, George G. Sank, Fred Barto
T.H. Bibelow, W.R. Walker.
1893 - H.C. Chapman Recorder: J.L. Walker
DECEMBER 4th, 1893 - No barbed wire ordinance.
Sidewalk Commission: Theo. DuBois, G.P. Drenner, D.E. Stafford
Streets & Alleys: W.W. Baxter, S.B. Yohn, J.G. Heble
March 5th, 1894 - Mayor G.P. Drenner, Recorder J.L.Walker
Streets: L.B. Woomert, Assessments: S.L. Hanks
Trusts: G.H. Pinneo, E.L. Slaughter
March 4th, 1895: Mayor Dr. John Knox Recorder: J.L. Walker
Streets: Ed Moss Trustees: H.H. Hull, Theo.DuBois, W. Baxter
Sidewalks & Alleys: DuBois, Stafford, & Slaughter
Ordinance: Pinneo, Baxter, Hull
Auditing: DuBois, Baxter, Pinneo
JULY 1st, 1895 - Railway Ordinance - D.C. & E Railway Company
-Within 60 days of this ordinance the D.C. & E Railway Co. will
construct a standard gauge steam railroad and operate its trains
there on from Clinton, Iowa through the town of Princeton, Iowa
to the city of Davenport, Iowa within one year from date of said
passage. Part two: That said Company will permit any and all
boats to land at its docks or wharves free of charge.

1896 - Dr. John Knox Recorder: J.L. Walker
Council: Assessor R.A.Strong; Street Commissioner E.L.Slaughter
Sidewalks: Woomert, Yohn, Shaw
Ordinance: Pinneo, Metz, Shaw
St.&Alleys: DeBois, Metz, Shaw
Finance: Yohn, Pinneo, Woomert
Trusts: W.H.Shaw, G.W.Metzger, L.B.Woomert

1897 - Dr.John Knox Recorder: P.C.Dammer
Council same as above.

1898 - Dr.John Knox " P.C.Dammer
Marshall Charles Ney; Streets: William Shaw, Fred Hanks
and Solas Hartzell.
Ordinance: Yohn, Hartzell, Pinneo
Finance: Woomert, Yohn, Hanks
Law & Supervision: Hartz, Woomert, Shaw

MARCH 1899 - License to E.Hoffman to sell meat in town from a wagon
for 8 months, ending November 11,1899. cost \$5.00
Treasurer: P.C.Dammer

1899 - H.P.Chapman Recorder: P.C.Dammer

APRIL 22, 1899 - Ordinance granting the right of way and certain
privileges to the Davenport, Clinton and Eastern
Railway Company.
Council: same as above.

SEPTEMBER 15, 1899 - Protest of ordinance (above) by the Methodist
and Lutheran Churches on 2nd Street.

FEBRUARY 1, 1900 - License to Ed Moss to keep for 1 year a pool
table or billiard table.(cost \$15. for 1 or
or \$20.00 for 2)

1900 - H.P.Chapman Recorder: P.C.Dammer
Treasurer: M.L.Hire, Assessor: R.Strong

1901 - Dr.John Knox Recorder: J.L.Walker
Council: J.D.Dennis, Charles Lawsen, E.L.Slaughter,W.Shaw,
John Rook, George Rook
Finance: John Rook, E.L.Slaughter, Charles Larsen
Ordinances: J.D.Dennis, William Shaw, E.L.Slaughter
Sts.& Alleys: Dennis, George Rook, W.H.Shaw
Sidewalks: John Rook, George Rook, Charles Larsen

SEPTEMBER 20, 1901 -Interurban ordinance - voted on and granted
Oct. 6, 1902 "Railroad not to charge more
than 5¢ for a term of 25 years."
The Iowa-Illiois Railway Company
J.J.Spencer, president/ Frank S.Ham,counsel

1902 - Mayor Dr.John Knox Recorder: Charles Franco
Treasurer: Hire Council: J.Rook, William Chandler, Hire
Trustee: John W.May(added)

1903 - Dr.John Knox Recorder: Charles Franco
1904- E.L.Slaughter " "
1905 - same
1906 - B.S. McCully " H.H.Smith
1907 - same
1908 - same
1909 - same
1910 - same

Princeton Commercial Club formed May 31, 1910

Officers: E.L.Slaughter, president
George Metzger, vice-president
Charles Suiter, secretary
Fred Ries, treasurer

Executive Committee: Frank Dennis, H.C.Baxter, G.W.Albow, L.H.Gay,
Joseph G.Heble, M.L.Hire, P.H.McGinnis, J.K.Pope

Members: H.P.Guink, A.J.Ericks, John Calvilla, L.T.Ries, S.R.Fulton,
William Chavelg, John Fiezel, E.F.Martin, Dell Shaw

Meetings to be held at Tammany Hall.

1911 - J.K. Pope	Recorder: S.R.Fulton
1912 - same	
1913 - J.K. Pope	" R.C.Morgan
1914 - Same	
1915-1917 - Mayor E.L.Slaughter	" H.W.Martin
1918-1919 - Mayor Dr. John Knox	" R.D.Strong
MAY 18, 1918 - Ordinance Commission: H.C.Baxter, E.Peitscher, Daniel W. Fullmer	

Streets & Assessments: Rook, Peitscher, Fullmer

Finance: Danson, Baxter, Peitscher

Light Commission: Baxter, Fullmer, Dawson

Sidewalks: Danson, Rook, Pullman

March 3, 1920-1921 - Mayor Charles H.Wendt	Clerk: S.R.Fulton
Council: H.C.Baxter, A.L.Dawson, D.W.Fullmer, John Underwood, Slaughter	
1922 - Dr. John Knox	Clerk: DeWitt Bragonier
Sidewalks: B.L.Morgan & Dr.Cusick	
Sts. & Alleys: John Scott, & Harry Brown	
Light: William Scott & Dr.Cusick	
Finance: B.L.Morgan & John Scott	
Ordinance: William Scott & B.L.Morgan	

Council: John Scott, W.D.Scott, B.L.Morgan, Harry Brown, Dr.George Cusick

Treasurer: Jack Suiter

Marshall: Edward Woods

1923-1925 same except for H.C.Baxter being added as clerk.

1926 - Mayor Dr. John Knox	Clerk: H.C.Baxter
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Streets & Alleys: DuBois, Scott, Speer

Sidewalks: Boll, Williams, Scott

Ordinance: DuBois, Boll, Williams

Finance: H.W.Speer, Scott, Williams

Light: DuBois, Scott, Speer

Treasurer: Suiter

1927 - same

1928 - Mayor Theodore DuBois	Clerk: H.C.Baxter
------------------------------	-------------------

Aldermen: J.C.Scott, W.D.Scott, William Haines, John Underwood

Marshal: L.B.Woomert

Street Commission: William Burcamper

Streets: John Scott, William Haines, John Underwood

Sidewalks: Dr.George Cusick, W.D.Scott, John Underwood

Ordinance: Dr.Cusick, W.D.Scott, William Haines

Finance: Dr.Cusick, W.D.Scott, William Haines

Lighting: Underwood, W.D.Scott, John Scott

1929-1930 - same

1930 - Mayor John Underwood	Clerk: H.C.Baxter
-----------------------------	-------------------

City Council: W.D.Haines, M.L.Hire, David Paul, E.A.Ralston, T.F.Ruhberg

Streets: W.A.Haines

- 1930 - Streets: W.A.Haines
Sidewalks: M.L.Hire, E.A.Ralston, David Paul
Finance: E.A.Ralston, T.F.Ruhberg, Haines
Light: Hire
- 1931 - same
- 1932 - Mayor B.L.Morgan Clerk: H.C.Baxter
Marshall: F.E.Bickel
City Council: P.B.Dennis, Arney, Ralston, E.F.Martin,
Randolph Fletcher, Ray Brown, Mrs.Edith Martin as treasurer
- 1933 - same -F.E.Bickel/night marshall, Arthur Peitscher/day marshall
- 1934 - Mayor W.A.Haines Clerk: H.C.Baxter
Treasurer: Dr.George Cusick
Assessor: Hugh Johnson
Council: Frank Norton, Chris Lund, H.E.Brown, T.F.Ruhberg,
- 1935 - same except for L.B.Woomert, marshall David Paul
- 1936 - same with William McClenahan as clerk
- 1937 - same except Brown & Ruhberg off council
A.Scott, Chris Lund, Fletcher & North added to council
- 1938 - Mayor W.A.Haines Clerk: William McClenahan
Council: Norton, J.A.Fletcher, John McKnight, Robert Suiter
James Clemons as City Magistrate
- 1939 - Mayor W.A.Haines Clerk: W. McClenahan
Council: Norton, Fletcher, Scott, Lund, Paul, McKnight, Suit
- 1940 - Mayor W.A.Haines Clerk: W.McClenahan
Council: J.R.Suiter, J.A.Fletcher, J.McKnight, F.Norton, Wilki on.
Health Comm: Dr.George Cusick H.Peitscher
- 1941 - Mayor Frank Norton Council: McKnight, Peitscher, J.R.Suiter,
- 1942 - same Thomas Ruhberg
- 1943 - same, Dayton Arkie & A.Drescher added to council
- 1944 - same - Art Peitscher as Marshall
- 1945 - same
- 1946 - same - February Firemans report: Herb Peitscher/Pres.&Chie
T.F.Ruhberg/vice-pres., Art Peitscher 1st asst.,
Allen Elliot 2nd asst., M.Litscher 3rd asst.
- 1947-1948-1949- same
- 1950 - Mayor Frank Norton Council: Harold Woomert, Joe W
John Litscher, William Parr, Herb Peitscher
Glen Suiter as treasurer
- 1951 - same (July a remedial works, consisting of fill & riprap
Clerk: H.W.Kleeburg Jr. to riverfront)
- 1952 - same, Al Pries and Suiter added to council
- 1953 - same, Harriet A. Shaw added as town clerk
- 1954 - Mayor Kenneth Purington/Council: H.Peitscher, John Litscher,
H.Woomert, J.Wilkinson, J.R.Suiter, Al Pries.
Treasurer: Glen H.Suiter Clerk: Harriet A.Shaw
- 1955 - same
- 1956 - Mayor J.R.Suiter Council: Peitscher, Litscher, Woomert,
N.H.Evans, B.L.Shaw Clerk: Arlene Eriling
- 1957 - same, Johanna Fawcett as city clerk
- 1958 - same, December: Jo Anne Hamilton as town clerk
- 1959 - same
- 1960 - Mayor Frank Norton Council: Peitscher, Woomert, Litscher,
Robert M.Rhoades, N.Evans
- 1961 - same John Matlock as marshall

- 1962 - Mayor Frank Norton Council: Litscher, Woomert, Lester Long,
Robert Rhoades, True McAllister
- 1963 - same Don Sitz added to council
- 1964 - same an Elliot added to council
- 1965 - same
- 1966 - Mayor Paul E. Inman Council: Harold Woomert, Elliot, Shaw,
Mike Kernan, Anderson, Don Sitz
- Planning and Zoning Commission: George Volrath, Paul Dennis, H.W. Boll,
John Gesell, Leonard Graham, Al Pries, Keith Havenhill,
Marshall: Herb Peitscher
- 1967 - same, M. Kernan resignation/ Samuel Havenhill elected
- 1967 - 1st Fireman's Halloween Parade cordinated by Kathy Havenhill
- 1968 - same
- 1969 - Mayor Paul E. Inman Council: Harold Woomert, Samuel Havenhill,
Walter Anderson, A. Elliot, Don Sitz, Ben Shaw, John Suiter
- 1970 - same Gloria F. Allen added as city clerk
- 1971 - same
- 1972 - Mayor Walter Anderson Council: L. Heble, Holst, Shaw, Woomert,
J. Suiter, Herbert Peitscher, Marshall & Fire Chief.
Wayne Youngers, Bruce Gaylor, Dennis Smith and Roger Woomert
Deputy Marshalls.
- (June 24th, 1972 1st Street Fest at "Goodtimes Gladly" 422 River Drive)
(It was a hog roast fund raiser for Joe Nahra, a democrat)
- 1972 - Clifford Jordan added as a volunteer marshall
- 1973 - Mayor Walter Anderson Council: same
- 1973-1978 Mayor|| Walter Anderson
- 1978-1982 Mayor Charles Brockman
- 1982- 1996 Mayor David McLaughlin

1997-2000 Mayor James Barnhill

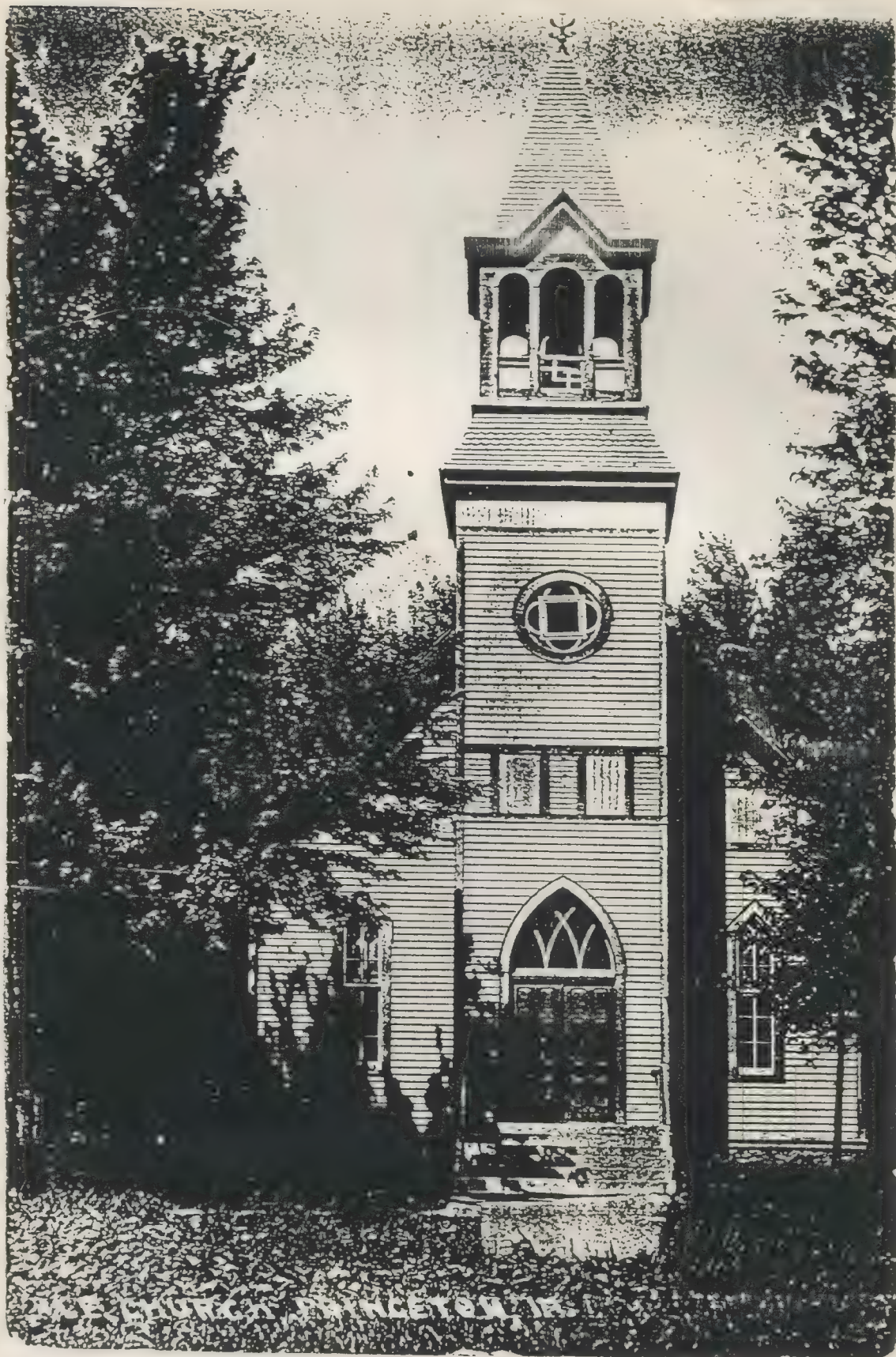
2000-2001

1999 Council, Dave Fanning, Mike Kernan, Sandy Bridger,

Steve Huethmann

2002

Mayor Daniel Dawson



EARLY COMMUNITY BIRTHS

Reference is made as to Dr. John Knox being the first white child born in Scott County. Later research proves this to be in error. During 1834 in the Pleasant Valley area, a son was born to Mr. and Mrs. J.B. Chamberlin. In Princeton during 1838, Henry Hire, Thomas Doty and Albert Pinneo were born. Dr. John Knox was born in 1852.

-P.Dennis

Also, there is a reference to an Uncle Joe Mounts, whose daughter Harriet Mounts Fridley was born September 2, 1835 as the first white girl being born in Scott County in the History of Scott County, Vol. #1.

-P.Miller



THE OLD INDIAN TRAIL

The Princeton area was once traversed by an Indian trail. When the Indians relinquished the area provisions were made that they could have access to the Mississippi River. The trail was some eight feet in width and extended from west to east. It entered the early settlement location in the middle of the 600 block of the present 5th Street and extended east along the north side of the L.E. Long property and Presbyterian Manse.

It is doubtful if the Indians ever exercised their privilege much of travel on this route. The nearby Wapsipinicon River provided a watercourse almost to the Minnesota border.

None of the early maps and charts of explorers designate this river to be the Wapsipinicon. Its name was identical with the Mississippi River except for the first letter. Later a cartographer changed the name to the Wapsipinicon. This inspired the legend of the two Indian lovers Wapsi and Pinicon.



P. Dennis



WOLVES

As late as 1918 wolves could be heard howling their disapproval as the evening passenger train whistled through town. One of them was silenced by a boy with an old Stevens 12 ga. pump gun that would not repeat. Ralph Ney was hunting squirrels in ARkie's timber when a big grey wolf broke cover from a ditch. Ralph made his one shot good. He took the carcass to the County Courthouse to be sure he had complete evidence to receive the bounty. He was given permission to remove the pelt. This he did with his pocket knife.

A LeClaire painter kept close watch every year on a wolf living in the hills west of Princeton. When her pups were whelped he would tote his gun, a sack, and a spade to the den and then dig out the pups. He was asked where with old wolf was when he was doing all of this. "Well, he said, "she was just sitting a few yards away watching me." He was then asked why he didn't shoot her for the extra bounty. He replied, "Why should I kill the goose that lays the golden eggs every year?"



PRINCETON RACQUET CLUB



In the early 1920's, some 15 young people were enthusiastic members. Since only one court was available doubles generally would be played. The court was located on a vacant lot now occupied by the Presbyterian Manse. Games were played both morning and afternoon during hte summer.

Rachel Morgan was president of the tennis club and Harold Penrod was official scorekeeper. A complete list of other members is not available, but in addition to Rachel and Harold were Jasper Morgan, Alice, Olive, and John Hickey, Gladys and John Rummel, and Paul Dennis.



- P. Dennis

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THE WAPSIPI CLUB

The club was organized about 1916 by some 30 Davenport men interested in duck hunting. A club house cabin was built on the riverbank just below Deep Slough. In later years when this was destroyed by fire a masonry clubhouse was built on the opposite Illinois shore.

All of the shooting was done from scullboats. One decoy spread was located on Williams' Bar and the other out from Lewis Island. About 100 wooden bluebill and canvas back decoys were used in each spread in addition to about 30 live mallards and generally had a pen of about 200. Ed Blocker and Paul Dennis of Princeton served many seasons as scullers. They were paid a salary for the season and received a bonus for each dusk they shot when no club members were present. The usual season "kill" was about 1,600 ducks!

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

In the past, having a nickname in Princeton was not unusual. In Fact, some even had a double nickname such as Ton's Tom. An incomplete list of the 1930's follows:

Alf, Big Wrist, Boozer, Cap, Catfish, Chicken, Chink, Darb, Del, Doc, Dummy, Fick, Heine, Howd, Hooker Joe, Hub, Indian Joe, Jit, Kaiser, Bill, Kiku, Nard, Neykee, Opie, Pandy, Pappy, Press, Pude, Ratty, Red, Rocky, Skinny, Sky, Teabo, Tink, Tig (Tigarette), Louise, Vickie, Whitey, etc...

- P. Dennis

THE OLD SWIMMING HOLE

Located below the high bank of the river at the upper end of tow, it afforded privacy and much enjoyment to the boys in the buff. Woe be unto anyone so modest as to wear a swimsuit. The bottom had its share of sharp rocks and bazorback clams. A cut or two could be expected. Leeches also would get between the toes, which had to be examined upon leaving the water. About 15 or 20 boys would frolic in the water sometimes both in the morning and in the afternoon.

After the swim, it was nice to stretch our on the grass on top of the bank. Someone would always have a sack of Bull Durham and some papers. Various subjects were discussed between puffs such as fishing but the most popular one was "what's doing tonight?" Sometimes the northbound freight would stop to permit the southbound passenger to pull on to the siding. Invariably the former would have a cattle car of Muscatine melons. As a rule, the top end gate was without seal. A one boy said, "This is not stealing, but they wished to make some samples available."

NEVER SEND A BOY

Chris Sierk was not a real big man but he was a powerhouse of strength. After giving my father an order for groceries he asked to have a barrel of salt also. My father told me to go along and help load it. His wagon was backed up to the doorway of the warehouse across the street. Several barrels of salt were near the doorway and he asked me if it made any difference, which on e he took. I said, "No, they all weigh the same". He brushed me aside and twirled the barrel over and into the wagon like it was empty. I returned to the store and my father asked me if I got the slat loaded. I said, 'That man didn't need me". "I know", said my father, "it was just a matter of courtesy."

- Paul Dennis





MAIN ST PRINCETON IA.







DURING construction of I + I SW corner of Hwy 67
NOV. 20th. 1904 - 2 + 1 BEGINS service day - ^{+ Fillmore St.} - 4.45



Vernon + Christine
Slaughter
RAN A HOTEL
IN PRINCETON,
IOWA

SLAUGHTER House?
(scary!) early 1900's

HOUSEBOAT DWELLERS

Most river towns had some houseboat dwellers and Princeton was no exception. Nestled below the high riverbank at the upper end of town they were afforded both privacy as well as protection from the cold northwest winds. The hulls were constructed of two-inch planks and a subfloor provided a generous air space beneath. One heating stove sufficed. A sandpoint and pitcher pump was the usual water supply.

Charley Carr and his wife lived just below the Alf Schulz home. After retiring as a commercial fisherman, he became the janitor of the old stone schoolhouse.

Just below the Carr boat was the location of Joe Ney's boat. Joe led a very peaceful life and had a very soft quiet manner. He enjoyed conversing with friends.

Below the present locker Plant was the boat of Jack Phelps. It had the distinction of having a cold water spring gushing from the bank near his doorway. This was before the days of the Thermo jugs and was the last source of supply for the old burlap covered just for those going fishing up river. The water was evidently sage to drink as no cases of typhoid or dysentery were attributed to it. Hack was a retired railroad man and his hobby was his two inboard powered launches the Drake and the Duck. They were painted red, white and blue and had rounded prows like Dutch whalers. After Jack's death his place was declared untenable and was destroyed.

INVITING CHOICE

Princeton at one time boasted two lodging places. One was operated by the Roach Family and the other by the Slaughter Family. A salemans, intent on staying in town for a few says, inquired of a local resident as to the availability of a room. "Oh yes, " replied the latter, "You have your choice of either the Roach House or the Slaughter House".

- Paul Dennis

THE WAGER

I was working in my garden when my friend True Engelhardt came to see me. He had made water with Clyde Nicholson that he could swim across the river and back in less than an hour. I was to follow in my rowboat to keep the swimmer advised of the time and to also be available in case of a bad cramp seizure. Each man bet ten dollars and this was placed in my billfold along with their signed statement of conditions. True entered the water at the foot of Fillmore street and stroked towards the Illinois shore. He swam leisurely but strongly and occasionally changed stroke. When he reached the Illinois shore, he stood up and waved, then plunged back in.

About mid-stream he suffered a light leg cramp and told me to say close. It was but a momentary delay, however, as he then struck boldly to the Iowa shore where he left the water at the old frame warehouse. Time: 45 minutes and 40 seconds.

FEW PAID - MOST DID NOT

A rank growth of scrub willows covered the riverfront for almost four blocks south of Washington Street. The town council hired two men to clean the area close to the ground as possible. They were to receive an hourly wage of thirty cents and were to furnish their own tools. The area was strewn with small rocks, which required frequent filing of the axes.

Upon the sixth day of work, when but a small area remained uncut, Theodore DuBois, the Street Commissioner drove down the street and enjoyed the river view not previously possible. He reined in his horse and beckoned the workers to come to his buggy "You have done a very good job and have earned almost enough to pay the poll tax that you owe, " he said.

- P. Dennis

20th Century Plastics
1-800-421-4662
STOCK # PPV84





LOW MOON AND HIS HERD
LOW MEORIA.

POST CARD



CORRESPONDENCE HERE

NAME AND ADDRESS HERE

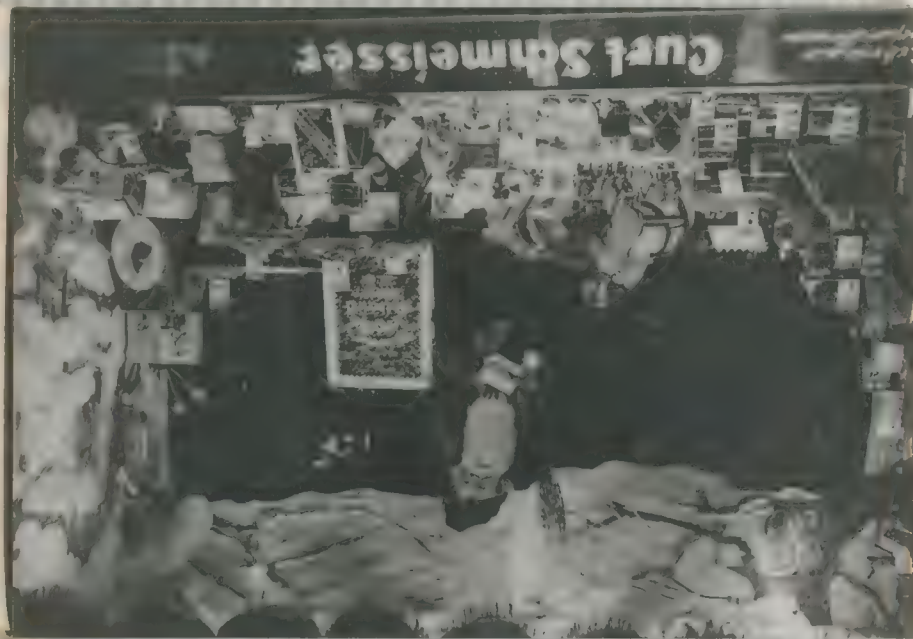
Low Moore, Dec 27

Mrs & Mr W & E Russell

McCausland

Mr & Mrs Russell. I
will send you a picture
of some of my prize
winners, and also wish
you a happy New Year

Jess. & Edith H.





Ethna Wheeler Cut-camp Webster

A

my
grandmother
Dad's Mom

Radi Island

Photo
album

Princeton & High
Grade
Grade



DURING CONSTRUCTION
OF I & I RY.
SW. CORNER OF Hwy 67 & Fillmore

NOV. 20th 1904

THE I & I INTERURBAN
RAILROAD BEGINS SERVICE
between Davenport +
Clinton



DEPT. PR. ...

Pioneer Doctor & Building



Dr. Samuel Knox was one of the earliest, possibly the first, to establish a medical practice in Princeton. His son, John, followed in his footsteps in becoming the seventh doctor in direct succession in their family. The Knox homestead is now occupied by the Waldo Jones family.

Dr. John claimed to be the first white child born in Scott County. No one has ever offered proof to refute this to the writer's knowledge. His practice was extensive, but he still took time to serve several terms as town Mayor. He took up political issues and fought vigorously to prevent the relocation of the river road at the Tile Works below LeClaire. He had an avid interest in local Indian history.

→ The doctor envisioned rapid growth of the town and decided to erect a large building with storerooms, offices, a ballroom and maybe hospital accommodations. With borrowed capital to augment his own, he erected exterior brick walls for a two-story structure on Front Street. At this stage his funds were exhausted and Princeton creditors would not extend more. He was able, however, to secure sufficient money in LeClaire for the completion of the building. He failed to do this, but instead added two more stories to the exterior walls. Further credit was not forthcoming and the skeleton structure remained so as a blot on the business section for many years.

In the early 1930's the Community Hall Building Association was formed with capital stock of \$10,000. Two stories of the outer walls were removed and the structure was completed. After a few years it was acquired by H. W. Boll, as sole owner, who has maintained the property in a creditable fashion.

Dr. Knox disposed of his farm for quite a large sum of money. He almost immediately became the target for stock and bond and other salesmen of questionable investments. He became penniless in a very short time. He moved into an apartment in the present Kane Building with his very gracious widowed sister, Elizabeth Meadley. He lived out his remaining years there. It was a peaceful, yet tragic, ending for a man who had served the community well in so many ways. The writer had many interesting and informative discussions with him. The man had qualities commanding respect.



"From Out of THE PAST"
Paul B. Dennis
1983





PRINCETON IA.





The Chautauqua

The Chautauqua also provided entertainment. The huge tent would be pitched behind the Zion Lutheran Church on a large vacant lot and they would stay for a whole week. They had a variety program and it was very interesting. People came from miles around each summer to enjoy the programs.



Other Memories

- * Lou Schaffer used the warehouse at the south end of Princeton to make "cement staves" for silos he sold around the country. It was quite a lucrative business and there were many cement silos around at one time.
- * On the property once owned by Mr. and Mrs. Gesell at the south part of town, are two old lime kilns that have stood the test of time and were operated for many years.
- * The Fulton's operated a telephone office upstairs over a large brick building (now gone) just north of Slaughter's Revere House. Mr. Fulton was a veterinarian and was out alot. Mrs. Fulton was a small woman with a mighty voice and she would operate an old stand-up switch board by plugging in the number asked for, and then ringing it in with a hand ringer. Quite a change from dialing direct such as we do today!
- * There were two doctors during the 1920's. Dr. Grassau who had an office in the building on the east side of Main Street (River Drive) (now gone). When Dr. Grassau left , a Dr. Cusick came and was here for quite some time before leaving to open another practice in Davenport.
- * Bands of Gypsies: Gypsies came through traveling in horse and buggies and would descend upon the town, usually in late summer. The merchants in town would close and lock all their doors until the gypsies decided to move on. The women wore full black skirts and would visit all of the business places if allowed in.
- * Grocery Stores: The town has had a variety of grocery stores. Starting with the J.D. Dennis Store, J.S. Hartwick, B.L.Morgan, Carter Whitney, Louie Ament, Edward Peitscher, John Hasenmiller, Allen Elliot, Henry Boll and Merlin Boll,
- * Jack Phelps lived in a houseboat where Kernan's docks are located. He repaired engines.
- * A Mr. Wilke built what we know as Lund's Garage. He operated it as a theater where silent movies were shown on Saturday night.

- "Tib" Stewart

1986



1940's

LAST SURVIVERS OF THE METZGER
FAMILY. CAPT. BENJAMIN J. METZGER
& HIS 3 SISTERS, CAROLINE ELIZABETH DENNIS,
JULIA ANNA PEASLEE AND MARY LOUISE

STAFFORD P. 18

From a Modest Beginning



He arrived in Princeton with his parents at the age of seven. The year was 1854. His father engaged in a small mercantile business, which was closed whenever he was commissioned a wagon train captain for crossing the Great Plains. The latter also served as a Scott County Supervisor.

Young Job only progressed as far as the fifth grade in school. He was, however, tutored at home by his well educated mother. He loved the river and was an expert oarsman. He made several trips on log rafts where his ability was utilized for running out the mooring lines in a skiff. He worked at other odd jobs untill he accumulated \$250.00. He was ready for the big step.

It was in the aerly 1870's when he and a friend left for Davenport. Each drove a team with a large wagon and the hour was early. Job had his \$250.00 with him and the wholesale houses, on the strength of it, gave him an equal amount of credit. Two days later a new general merchandise store was opened in Princeton with a \$500.00 stock. The competitors called it a peanut stand, but customers and stock increased daily. It was only a short time before the building became too small for the stock and the amount of business. A large store was needed. One was built.

The building had exterior walls of brick burned in a kiln on the bluff to the rear of the Gesell residence. It had a mansard roof and attractive cornice. The basement was blasted out of solid rock. It remained cool enough for the storage of butter. A dummy elevators was constructed on the main floor in the rear of the building to lower the butter. A gas light plant furnished lights for the building and for a row of ornate sidewalk gas lights, on iron standards, up the sidewalk to Whiskey Run. It was known as the "Dennis White Way". The main salesroom at ground level was large. To the rear was an office and a screened-in flour room with a storage capacity of over a carload.

A row of hitching posts was installed on both sides of the block to accommodate the usual Saturday shoppers. The large upstairs ballroom covered the entire floor. It had a gala opening with a band from Rock Island captivating the dancers. Other dances and enterainment followed. A roller-skating instructor arrived from Chicago with a gross of rink skates. The skates had wooden bottoms with hard maple rollers, cushioned with rubber. The hall also was the home of local talent, plays and the Farmer's Institute. It was also here on a memorable day in the year 1908 that the Farmer's Savings Bank was born. After many conferences beforehand, Andrew Schmalz, Emil Kroeger and Job Dennis did the preliminary planning and solicited the sale of capital stock. They were all highly esteemed local men of integrity. Job served as President for twenty-five years. Andrew and Emil then served in succession untill their deaths.

Recreational activities were not confined to the upper floor. In front of the shoe department were the chairs and checkerboards, along with the plug tobacco boxes filled with sawdust. There were extra chairs for Kibitzer, but sometimes those were filled and it

was standing room only. The extra chairs were also used for friendly sitdown visits between customers. At times some sandbags were placed in the opening behind the north counter and a shooting gallery was provided. Nearly everyone had a driving horse. If there were any disagreements about whose was the fastest, it could be settled at the store's race tract - around forty acres on the Lower Lane. It was the home of J.D.'s race horse.

Other businesses were operated in conjunction with the store. J.D. built a grain elevator, lumber yard and ice house at the present site of Johnson Mfg. Co. A large warehouse at the lower end of town was used for grain storage preparatory to shipment by boat. A crew of men sacked the grain. Frank "Pandy" Rook was the best sack sewer. A wagon scale was installed in front of the store for weighing in grain and for public use. The fee was 25¢ per draft. A large warehouse was built on the riverfront near the store. It was used for storage of fencing, barrel salt and various items of hardware and farm equipment. The Outing was moored close by. All these operations gave employment to local men. The store was agents for the packet boats.

In the store George Metzger was the regular clerk. He would quickly weigh and tie up packages. Most of the items were sold in bulk, such as sugar, tea, coffee, beans, etc. Bert Morgan and Harry Martin were part-time clerks. Metzger could speak German fluently to the satisfaction of a large number of customers. He was also Postmaster, but that was in another building. His wife, Maggie Hanks, was the daughter of Samuel Hanks, first cousin of Nancy Hanks Lincoln. It was the only place in town selling bakery bread.

About the year 1910 the store was sold to J.S.Hartwick. Other owners followed, but only with mediocre success until the arrival of H.H.Boll. Heine, as he has always been affectionately called, put the business back on the map. He later moved the business south to the corner.

The old landmark has not been used for years for mercantile purposes. If you should happen to be walking past it some night, pause awhile to reflect and listen. The moon may light your path as the ornate gas lights would have done years ago. You might even be able to hear the echo of a Viennese Waltz from the far distant past.

Job Dodge Dennis (1847-1935)



422-424 25th St. EMM
Telephone 4 1216 Miller

THE PRINCETON REPORTER

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1900

Professional Cards

Dr. John Knox,
Physician and Surgeon,
PRINCETON, IOWA.

A. H. Peters, M. D.
Physician and Surgeon.
Calls Promptly Answered at ~~Home~~
Office in Odd Fellows Bldg. Princeton, Ia.

Dr. W. A. Winter
PHYSICIAN and SURGEON.
PRINCETON IOWA.

S. R. Fulton,
VETERINARY SURGEON and DENTIST.
PRINCETON, IOWA.

E. D. Moss,
Proprietor of the
River View Pool Room,
AND
BILLIARD HALL.

Scott County Herd
Poland China & Duroc Jersey
SWINE

Males and Females of the best
Strains.
Bred and Quality a Specialty.
Bred by W. M. SCOTT.

JOHN CALVELLA,
Shoemaking and Repairing,
Neatly Done.
Wear and Tear Repaired.

State Normal. Cedar Falls, Iowa.

The progress in the construction of the new STATE NORMAL building is slow owing to the small amount of laborers and rainy weather.

FOOT-BALL.

The game played Oct. 20th., between the CORNELL TEAM and I. S. N. S. TEAM was earnestly played; each team putting forth their best effort to win. Owing to the pleasant day and the earnest zeal shown by the players the score was a tie, being 6 to 6. As the teams did not score in favor of either, the Cornell boys returned to Mt. Vernon being satisfied that they had played their best, while the I. S. N. S. team was satisfied that they had put forth their best effort. No one was seriously hurt. The teams received loud applause by the ardent observers.

C. A. Pope.

I. S. N. S.

Riverside Hotel,

PRINCETON, IOWA.

THIRTY ROOMS

Robt. Drechsler, Propr.
STABLING -IN- CONNECTION.

The River House
PRINCETON, IOWA.

E. T. Slaughter, Propr.
Served by the day or week,
Commercial Trade a Specialty.
ONLY TWO BLOCKS FROM D & I Depot.
Good Stable in Connection.

William Chandler, Propr.
City Dray Line.

All calls promptly attended to,
Charges reasonable.



WORKERS, DURING CONSTRUCTION OF I AND F Rwy.
S. WEST CORNER OF HWY 67 AND FILMORE ST.



EARLY 1900 GRADING FOR I&I RW -
ALONG RIVER DR. * JUST NORTH OF BADD CREEK HWY
67



Salem Lutheran Church in Princeton, 1938. Known as the "Old Brick Church," it was used for services from 1856 until 1922, when Salem merged with Zion Lutheran Church. The building was razed in 1943.
(Provided by Zion Lutheran Church)



EARLY 1900'S, GRADING FOR THE I & I RAILWAY, ALONG RIVER DRIVE.
JUST NORTH OF BUDD CREEK, HIGHWAY 67.



THE I & I RAILWAY UTILITY BUILDING, EARLY 1900'S.



1911 DEPOT PRINCETON IA.



IOWA-ILL RAILWAY - CO
BAGGAGE CAR
EARLY 1902



THE STEAMER "HAWK" UNLOADING A CARGO OF SHELLS FOR SHIPMENT
BY RAIL, AT THE WEST END OF THE STRAIT, ENGL.





The Steamer "Outing" unloading a barge of

Camshells for shipment by rail on

Washington St., Princeton, Iowa, 1901.







Heinie Boll
when Grocery
was at 422
River
DRIVE
1930's



Heinie Boll's
1st store 1920's

my place!



Thelma Boll

+ Merlin Boll

baby picture
when they
lived in
Penne's home





MAIN ST. PRINCETON IA.



Merlin Boll







FLOOD OF 1965

Every town had its general store, similar to Boll's General Store in Maysville, 1940. Pictured are Roland Boll, Grover Meyer and Loretta Boll.
(Provided by Gary Holdorf)





Bertram Leroy Morgan Sr. is shown in front of the Morgan Grocery Store and filling station in Princeton, Iowa, circa 1918. The son of pioneer settlers Jasper and Etta Morgan, Bertram operated the store for 28 years before moving to Clinton, Iowa.

(Provided by David Adams)



Captain of the Ellen Riverboat was John Suiter of Princeton, the only captain certified to "run the rapids." Docked at Princeton in this circa 1900 photo, the Ellen was the official U.S. flagship for Rock Island District fleet in this area of the Mississippi. Suiter worked as a riverboat pilot from 1892 until 1942.

(Provided by Linda Holst)



From the Map Collection of Harford MacNider.

Iowa in the Early Days — The First 31 Counties.

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Strains.
Bred and Quality a Specialty.
Bred by W. M. SCOTT.

JOHN CALVELLA,
Shoemaking and Repairing,
Neatly Done.
Musical Instruments Repaired.

State Normal. **Cedar Falls, Iowa.**

The progress in the construction of the new STATE NORMAL building is slow owing to the small amount of laborers and rainy weather.

FOOT-BALL.

The game played Oct. 20th., between the CORNELL TEAM and I. S. N. S. TEAM was earnestly played; each team putting forth their best effort to win. Owing to the pleasant day and the earnest zeal shown by the players the score was a tie, being 6 to 6. As the teams did not score in favor of either, the Cornell boys returned to Mt. Vernon being satisfied that they had played their best, while the I. S. N. S. team was satisfied that they had put forth their best effort. No one was seriously hurt. The teams received loud applause by the ardent observers.

G. A. Pope.
I. S. N. S.

THE PRINCETON REPORTER

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1900



Holiday buggy rides in
Princeton, Iowa.

EARLY 1900's - 1 Telephone
pole - may 19^{TEEN'S} something?

Now the site of Princeton
Marina.

OLD BEUSE'S RESTURANT / OLD FELLOWS
BACK LEFT. HALL

0484



6.



J.D. DENNIS GENERAL STORE

For years the store, with its upstairs hall, provided the greatest incentive for people to come to town for business or pleasure. It carried a large stock of provisions, hardware, shoes, etc. and in addition, in conjunction, operated a grain elevator, ice house, lumber yard and was agent for all the packet boats. It also operated a small steamboat.

The only wagon scale in town was in front of the store. Farmers could sell their grain, butter and eggs at all times. Clammers could sell their shells.

The upper hall was vital to the community life. Some of the activities there were as follows; Home Talent Plays, School Graduation Exercises, Farmers Institute, Basketball, Bank Meetings, Dances, and even Roller Skating.

The first recorded event in the hall was in 1888. The newly organized Princeton Lutheran Church conducted their first services there.

The patronage for the above extended over an eight or nine mile inland area. Packet boats frequently loaded provisions across the street from the store. The town of Princeton would have been very dead without all of this!

17 046 1 111 11

THE WHITE POTATO RIVER

In notes to the record of Pike's expedition, the editor, Dr. Elliott Coves, has a smile over the river which forms the northern boundary of Scott County. To quote him: "At 4 p.m., Pike passed on the left of Iowa side a river whose name is perhaps the most remarkable thing about it - WABISAPENICUN, Pike's map; WABISIPINEKAN, Pike's text farther on; WABISAPINCUN, Lewis and Clark's map of 1814; WAPISIPINICON, Long's; WABEZIPINKAN, Nicollet's; WABESAPINICA, Featherston Haugh's, WAPSIPINICON, Owen's and United States engineers'; WAPSIPINECON, G.L.O.

page 121, Vol. #I History of Scott Co.

page 110

WALL-BESSA-PINNECON-SE PO

(the place of white potatoes)

The name is derived from the two Indian words "WAUBESSA", white or swan-like, and "PINNEAC", a potato, "SEPO" being the Indian name for river. The river was probably named from the fact of great quantities of the wild artichoke being found in that region.

~~Robert Lawrence~~
Shaylee Hatil

Storage
Phil Greene

Shut Bowers / Nov.

John E. Perkins
Office

Bill Pentch
made Brooms

Best Morgan
Al Garage
Frankie Gange

Bank

Ed. Fisher

1961

AN INDIAN'S THOUGHTS ON WHITE MAN

INDIAN SAYS: "WHITE MAN CRAZY..."

We've always liked this "literary" gem dealing with the "progress of the white man." As a matter of fact, it should be copied and posted on bulletin boards at schools, sportsman's clubs, conservation organizations, and civic groups. That's where it needs the most attention.

"A deserted farmhouse in a gullied field was pictured in a farm journal, which offered a prize for the best 100 - word description. An Indian took first prize with this graphic verse:

"Picture show white man crazy. Cut down trees. Make big tipi. Plow hill. Water wash. Wind blown soil. Grass gone. Door gone. Window gone. Whole place gone. Buck gone. Squaw gone. Papoose too. No chuck - away. No pigs. No corn. No plow. No hay. No pony. Indian no plow land. Great Spirit make grass. Keep grass. Buffalo eat grass. Indian eat buffalo. Hide make tipi; make moccasin. Indian no make terrace. All time eat. No hunt job. No hitchhike. No ask relief. No shoot pig. No build dam. No give dam. Indian waste nothing. Indian no work. White man crazy.



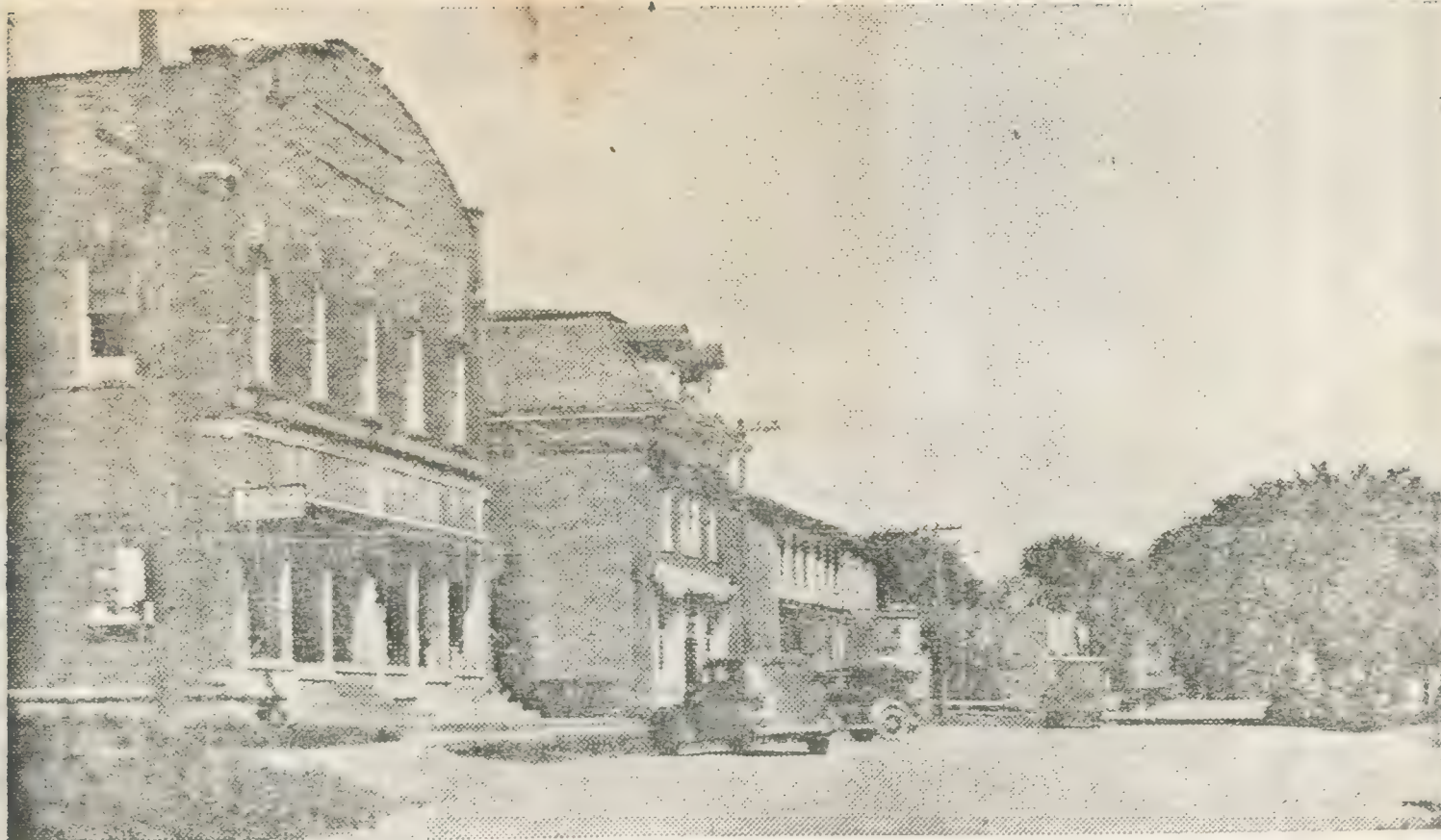


G.E. GARBER'S TAVERN
PRINCETON, IOWA.



Princeton

1930's



Princeton existed for only a few years as an unorganized village, for it was incorporated in January, 1857, slightly more than three years after its plan was drawn on Dec. 22, 1853, by Robert and George H. Bell and John Culbertson. The first election was held in March, 1857, and Samuel Porter was chosen mayor.

A rapid growth seems to have led to the early incorporation of the town, for history records a population of about 500 persons in 1858 and 1,000 the following year. Now the town numbers 373, according to latest census figures.

Saw and planing mills and grist mills were among its early industries and for a time it seemed that with the river at its dooryard the town would assume much importance in the county's commercial life. But many plans, among them power development on the Wapsie, went a-glimmering, and historians admitted 20 years later that prophecies of 1860 had not been fulfilled.

W. A. Haines is mayor of the city now. Other officers are H. C. Baxter, clerk; Hugh Johnson, assessor; Dr. George Cusick, health officer and treasurer; and F. F. Richberg, H. E. Brown, Chas. Lund, Frank Norton and David Paul, councilmen.







Looks like
Heinie Boll!

P.M.

(My current home)

CHAMBERLIN'S BOOKLET, JULY, 1923. PRINCETON, IOWA.

Farmers' Savings Bank

PRINCETON, IOWA

ORGANIZED APRIL, 1908

Capital Stock, \$20,000.00

Surplus and Profits, \$24,000.00

We Pay Four Per Cent Interest on Savings

SAFETY AND SERVICE

Electrically Protected Vault

We Invite Your Patronage

J. D. DENNIS, President.

A. H. SCHMALZ, Vice-Pres.

ZACH G. SUITER, Cashier.

H. D. GAULT, Asst. Cashier.

FRESH MEATS-----GROCERIES

Dry Goods

House Dresses

Peter's "All Leather" Shoes

Fisk Tires, Tubes, Poultry Feeds

Hardware----Paints----Aluminum


ETC.,

Boll's General Store.

*Bolla
Schroeder
HSS
1923
Chamberlin
Bottle?*

Bert Morgan,
Staple
and
Fancy
GROCERIES,
Princeton, Iowa.

G. E. Swain,
General Merchandise
MC CAUSLAND, IOWA.


The Scenic
HIGH-WAY
BAKERY,

The Best and Cleanest in
BAKERY GOODS.
J. E. SWANSON,
Princeton, Iowa.

The Value to You
of your Banking Con-
nections is measured in
SERVICE RENDERED
We can take care of your
Banking needs.

Le Claire Savings
BANK,
LE CLAIRE, IOWA.

C. S. Simpson, President.
C. C. Brown, Asst. Cashier.
E. G. Weismann, Cashier.

THE
SCENIC HIGHWAY
Restaurant

ON THE EAST SIDE, IS
the Place to Get the Finest

EATS.

Warm Meals at all Hours
ICE-CREAM, CANDIES
and Soft Drinks,
Princeton, Iowa.

Auction
Butler Township Play—

"THE FIRST DRESS SUIT"

Tommy Harding.....	Alvin Tiedje
Johnny Drake.....	Lee Stevens
Betty Harding.....	Doris Dannett
Mrs. Harding.....	Gladys Baughman

The Institute has purchased two beautiful silver trophy cups, one of which will be given for the best 10 ears of yellow corn and one for the best 2-pound roll of butter. These cups are to be the property of the Institute until won by one party three times, when they become the property of that party. The winner each year will hold the cup that year and will have his name engraved on the cup. These cups are given in addition to the cash prize which will remain the same. Last year the cups were awarded to Mr. Albert and Mrs. James T. Fletcher.

Prize winning culinary, potato, candy and apple exhibits will be sold at auction Saturday night by Auctioneer Robt. Troy of Davenport, Iowa.

DONATIONS

Davenport Democrat	\$25 00
The Daily Times	10.00
Union Savings Bank and Trust Company.....	10.00
Farmers' Savings Bank	10.00

Furniture furnished by Iowa Furniture Co.

*Return to
Bessie Seick*

PROGRAM

of the

Twenty-fourth Annual

FARMERS' INSTITUTE

of Princeton, Butler, LeClaire, Lincoln
Pleasant Valley and Davenport Townships

To Be Held At the

Albert Gross School, LeClaire, Iowa
Friday and Saturday, December 4-5, 1931

OFFICERS

President.....	RALPH PORTER
Vice-President.....	WILLIAM MOFFETT
Secretary	WALTER W. PAUL
Treasurer.....	ALLEN W. ELLIOTT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Wesley Schmalz, Orville Stewart, Ralph Wilson, Dr. C. C. Johnson,
D. T. Wilson, Alvin Arp, T. A. Fletcher, Fred Dombrowski,
A. D. Parmele, Roger Van Evera, Fred Schutter, Chas. Watkins.

LADIES' BOARD

President.....	MRS. O. R. HAMILTON
Vice President.....	MRS. LEE CLARK
Secretary and Treasurer.....	MRS. H. G. McCONNELL

DIRECTORS

Mrs. Geo. Underwood, Mrs. Geo. Stichter, Mrs. Wm. Moffett, Mrs.
Walter Zabel, Mrs. Chas. Watkins, Miss Grace Van Evera.

JUDGES

Grain Department.....	ED. DYAS, Ames
Culinary.....	MISS HARRIET PARKES, Clinton
Fancy Work.....	MISS FERN CARL, Rock Island
Butter.....	MISS HARRIET PARKER

10:00 A. M., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4

Call to Order.....President Ralph Porter
Prayer.....Rev. F. P. Hladky
Address of Welcome.....Dr. C. C. Johnson
Response.....President Porter

1 P. M., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4

Cattle Feeding.....Rex Beresford, Ames
Hybrid Corn.....Ed Dyas, Ames

LADIES' PROGRAM—FRIDAY, 1:00 P. M.

Invocation.....Rev. E. J. Clark
Community Singing.....Mrs. E. G. Weisman, Director
Solo.....Miss Gladys Baughman
Demonstration—Care of Silver and Brass.....Pleasant Valley Farm Bureau Ladies
Address—Adult Education in 1931.....Mrs. N. May Larson
Duet.....Misses Kathlyn and Inez Meyer
Talk.....Florence Bruce-Rusch
Demonstration—Pictures.....Mrs. Wm. Mast
Reading.....Mrs. Wm. Jugenheimer

FRIDAY, 7:00 P. M.

Concert.....Girls' 4-H Orchestra

Davenport Township Play—

“THE FINGER OF GOD”
by Percival Wilde

Strickland.....John H. Garner, Jr.
Benson.....Frank Martzahn
A Girl.....Bernadine Bruning

Solo.....Miss Alverta Schmalz
Reading.....Mrs. Lloyd Pallamter

LeClaire Township Play—

“MISS MARY SMITH”

Charles Miller—A Young Lawyer.....Sidney Muzzy
Lillian Miller—His Wife.....Mrs. C. C. Brown
Fred Miller—Captain in U. S. Army.....C. C. Brown
Estelle Bertram.....Clover Fletcher
Mary Smith.....Isabel Ryan
Mary (called Bridget)—A Servant in the Miller Home.....Margaret Winrow

An Expressman.....Paul R. Brown

Time—Present. Place—Country Town Near New York
Scene—Ladies' Boudoir

Sketch—“Peanuts”.....Mr. and Mrs. W. Maxwell

Lincoln Township Play—

“RATS”

by G. F. Mountford

George Whiffle—A Would Be Inventor.....Harold Wilson
Peter Spooner—George's Uncle.....Willard Krieter
Myrtle Wiffle—George's Wife.....Janet Wilson
Mrs. Penny—The Landlady.....Helen Jugenheimer

10:00 A. M., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5

Election of Officers and General Business

1:00 P. M., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5

Dairy Feeding.....Floyd Johnson, Ames
Federal Farm Loan.....Adrian Kirby, DeWitt

LADIES' PROGRAM—SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 12:45 P. M.

Explanation of Judge's Decision.....Miss Harriet Parkes, Miss Fern Carl
Music.....Carter Children
Play—“Those Husbands of Ours”.....LeClaire Farm Bureau Ladies
Address—“Norway”.....Mrs. F. H. Little
Election of Officers
Reading.....Pleasant Valley Girls' Club
Solo.....June Stichter
Stunt.....Lincoln Go Getters
Play.....Belmont Girls' Club

7:00 P. M., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5

Concert.....Boys' and Girls' 4-H Orchestra

Pleasant Valley Township Play—

“TWENTY-FOUR BOTTLES”

Mrs. Smith.....Miss Mildred Watkins
Mrs. Smith's Mother.....Mrs. W. G. Maxwell
Mr. Smith.....Mr. W. G. Maxwell

Auction

Princeton Township Play—

“TOO MUCH OF A GOOD THING”

by T. S. Denison

Mr. Perkins—A Hen-pecked Husband.....Wesley Schmalz
Tom Perkins—A Greenie.....Warren Hamilton
Fred Schuyler—The Fiancee.....Ray Brown
Mrs. Perkins—The Aristocrat.....Bessie Norton
Hattie Perkins—Her Daughter.....Pearl Brown
Nellie Perkins—Another Daughter.....Edythe Kroeger
Eunice Bowles—Her Niece.....Mildred Strong
Jennie Cowper—Another Niece and t e Fiancee.....Clover Schmalz
Polly—The Maid.....Elma Elliott



Picture Appeared in
The DavenportDemocra



848

Mom

849

Mom
Pat
vern

Elaine Schulz
()
at Farmers' Institute
1934



May 67
TOM + BERNICE FRASIER'S House 1890's







FARMERS SAVINGS BANK

PRINCETON, IOWA.
November 28, 1945

Mr. John Litscher,
Princeton, Iowa.

Dear John:

Enclosed find Note and Mortgage for \$1500.00
to Irvin J. Fletcher which has been paid, cancelled
and released.

Yours very truly,

Z. G. Suiter

Z. G. Suiter, President.

ZGS:rd

MÖR.T.GÄGE

John Litscher and

Irma C. Gieseler, husband and wife

TO

Irvin J. Fletcher

Dated.....19.....

CONVEYS:

Part of Lot or Section	Lot or Sec.	Blk. or Twp.	Rng.

STATE OF IOWA

Scott.....County, ss.

Filed for record this.....29th....day of

May.....A. D. 19..44.

at 8:30 o'clock A. M., and recorded

in book.....117.....of.....T.L.M.....

on page.....231.....

Recorder.

Deputy.

WIDLAR & CHAMBERS CO., DAVENPORT, IOWA 26033

\$1.00 Paid

FARMER'S SAVINGS BANK, PRINCETON, IA.

THIS INDENTURE, Made and executed the 26th day of May A. D. 19 44
by and between John Litscher and Irma C. Litscher, husband and wife
of the County of Scott and
State of Iowa, parties of the first part, and Irvin J. Fletcher
of Princeton, Scott County, Iowa
part of the second part, WITNESSETH: That the said parties of the first part, for and in consid-
eration of the sum of Fifteen hundred (\$1500.00) and no/100- - - - - DOLLARS,
paid by said party of the second part, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, have granted
and sold, and do by these presents grant, bargain, sell, convey, and confirm unto the said party
of the second part his heirs and assigns forever, the certain tract or
parcel of real estate, situated in the County of Scott and State of Iowa; described
as follows, to-wit:
Lots Two (2) and Three (3) Block Ten (10) Original Town of Princeton, Scott
County, Iowa.

To have and to hold the premises above described, with all the appurtenances thereunto belong-
ing, unto the second party, and to his heirs and assigns forever. The said First parties
represent to and covenant with the party of the second part, that they
have good right to sell and convey said premises; that they are free from encumbrance, and that
they will warrant and defend said premises against the lawful claims of all persons whomsoever,
and the said Irma C. Litscher hereby releases all her right of dower in
and to the said premises; and the said parties of the first part relinquish and convey all
right of homestead in said premises.

THIS CONVEYANCE TO BE VOID ON THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:

That said John Litscher and Irma C. Litscher, husband and wife
shall pay to said Irvin J. Fletcher or order,
the sum of Fifteen hundred (\$1500.00) dollars on or before three (3) years. Makers
agree to pay \$500.00 per year on May 26th each year with the privilege of paying
any additional amount.
with interest on all of said money from this date, until paid, at the rate of 5 per cent per annum, payable
annually according to the one promissory note of the
said First parties of even date herewith;
and it is stipulated in said note, and in this mortgage, that should any of said interest not be paid when due it
shall bear interest at the rate of seven per cent per annum from the time the same becomes due, and this mortgage
shall stand as security for the same.

That said First parties shall pay all taxes
and assessments levied upon said real estate before the same become delinquent, and in case not so paid the
holder of this mortgage shall have the right to declare the whole sum of money herein secured due and collectible
at once, or may pay such taxes or assessments, and be entitled to interest on the same at the rate of seven per
cent per annum, and this mortgage shall stand as security for such taxes and interest so paid.

That said First parties shall cause the
buildings on said premises to be insured, and during the existence of this mortgage keep insured, against loss by
fire, in some good company, to be selected by the mortgagee, in the sum of not less than insurable value
dollars, loss, if any, to be payable to said second party, and shall deliver policies and renewal receipts to said second
party; and upon failure to make such insurance or to deliver said policy or renewal receipts, said second party may
make such insurance or treat this mortgage as due; and if he elects to make such insurance he shall be entitled
to interest on the amount paid therefor at the rate of seven per cent per annum, and this mortgage shall stand
as security for the amount so paid, with interest as aforesaid.

It is further stipulated and agreed that a failure to pay any of the said money, either principal or interest with-
in 30 days, after the same becomes due, or a failure to conform or comply with any of the foregoing
conditions or agreements, shall cause the whole sum of money herein secured to become due and collectible at
once, if the holder of said note so elect, and this mortgage may thereupon be foreclosed immediately for the whole
of said money, interest, and costs.

And it is further expressly agreed that in the event of any failure to pay said sums of money, or any part
thereof, or the interest thereon, when due and payable, said second party shall be, and hereby is, authorized to
take immediate possession of said property, and to rent the same, and shall be held liable to account to said first
party for the net profits thereof. It is also agreed that the taking possession thereof as above provided shall
in no manner prevent or retard said second party in the collection of said sums by foreclosure or otherwise.

And it is further agreed, that in the event of the commencement of an action for the foreclosure of this mort-
gage, upon any default being made, that reasonable Dollars attorney's fee shall become
due from the first party to the second party, and shall be paid in the event of a settlement before a decree of fore-
closure shall be obtained; and if a decree of foreclosure shall be entered, then reasonable Dollars,
attorney's fee shall be taxed by the court and included in said decree.

In Testimony Whereof, the said parties of the first part have hereunto set their hands
and seal the day and year first above written.

John Litscher (Seal)
Irma C. Litscher (Seal)

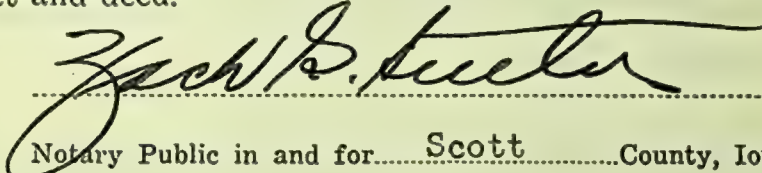
STATE OF IOWA,.....Scott.....County, ss.

On this.....26th.....day of.....May.....A. D. 1944, before me,

.....Zach G. Suiter....., a Notary Public in and for.....Scott.....

County, Iowa, personally appeared.....John Litscher and Irma C. Litscher, husband and wife.....

to me known to be the persons.....named in and who executed the forego-
ing instrument, and acknowledged that.....they.....executed the same as
.....their.....voluntary act and deed.


.....
Notary Public in and for.....Scott.....County, Iowa.



HE CAME UPON A LOG TO THE "BEAUTIFUL LAND"

The Indians often referred to Iowa as the "Beautiful Land". They had a large village on the site now occupied by the town of Princeton. Their chief venerated the area to the extent that he had a large burial mound erected on a knoll overlooking the river (see Indian Mound story). It was to receive his remains and those of his close relatives as was the custom. (The site of Princeton was one of the three principal villages of the Fox Nation as noted in the journal of Zebulon M. Pike - P. Miller)

Many years later Giles Pinneo came from the east on foot in quest of a site to claim and settle upon. When he reached the Mississippi River, he was intrigued by the view of the opposite shore. There was timber to build a cabin and heat it. The verdant greenery indicated fertile soil. Pinneo walked along the water's edge until he came upon a log. It floated high in the water and seemed suitable for his purpose. By straddling it and paddling with his hands, he was able to effect the crossing. After some exploration he found the site of his dreams. He found the land was all the Indians had said that it was. The following year he returned to live out his days in the "Beautiful Land".



CHRONOLOGY The first 65 Years



- 1835 H.H. Pinneo* claimed land on the site which is now Princeton. Giles Pinneo located a claim west of Rock Cut. *Some records indicate this was H.P. Haswell.
- 1836 Both men built log cabins. Giles married Asenath Stricker. Their children were Charles W. born December 26, 1839; Sarah born November 28, 1841; and Mary E. born May 28, 1844. Thomas Hubbard, Sr. arrived.
- 1837 Daniel Hire built the first frame house in Princeton township. He was a Canadian who at the age of 20 moved to Indiana where he married Jane Anderson before they moved to Iowa. (This site was about four miles from the river.)
- 1838 Benjamin Pike opened the first store but only stayed two years. Before that all supplies had to be boated upriver from Fort Armstrong on the lower tip of Arsenal Island. Benjamin Doolittle established the first ferry crossing the Wapsipinicon River. Jonas Barber built a steam mill and Jacob Rose, a distillery. A store known as Lawyer Hammond and Co. was opened. The first births were Henry Hire, Thomas Doty and Albert Pinneo.
- 1839 John Parcell arrived. He served as Postmaster for 15 years and was a Justice of Peace and Notary Public. He was active in organizing the 20th Iowa Infantry during the Civil War and was a Lieutenant.

1836-40 Settlers arriving during this five year period were:

Gideon Averill	Abijah Goodrich
Jonas Barber	Jesse R. James
Isaac Daughenbaugh	John & Polly Leamer
John B. Doty	William Palmer
Benjamin Daulittle	Avery & Matthias Pinneo
Jacob & Christine Fullmer	Henry & Mary Shadle
George & Susan Gast	Samuel Sturtivant
John, Samuel & William Gast	<i>William + Rosetta Hopson</i>

A Methodist church was started at this time.

1840 Isaac Pope built a log cabin. He married Mary A. Rathburn, - of which union 9 children were born. Of the latter, James K. married Mary Green and Melvina married John Fanning. The Fannings eventually owned several properties in the south end of town.

1841 The first post office was built and H. Pinneo was appointed Postmaster.

1842 W.W. Baxter, age 13, arrived.

1844 J.W. Parkhurst filed a claim. (see Parkhurst Homestead

1845 Col. W.F. Breckinridge, a Pennsylvania capitalist, opened a 5,000 acre farm in the Wapsipinicon bottoms. He planned to dam the river, thereby generating enough power to supply a large city. Death terminated his project, but he did establish a store at the lower end of town, which was then known as Pinnacle Point. This was operated by his brother-in-law, George Strumbaugh. It was a distributing place for local mail and also served as a public meeting place.

1847 The first school classes were held in the log house of H.H. Pinneo. Hannah Peaslee was the teacher at a weekly salary of \$1.75. A much larger building was needed, but constant bickering over location delayed its construction.

1851 Denton Culbertson, Jr., and Hanna J. Culbertson were interred in a tract of ground later to be platted Oakridge Cemetery.

1852 Tired of the delay in constructing a much needed new school, Giles Pinneo and Wilber Warren furnished their own money and labor and constructed a new building 25'x35'. It cost \$375.00, which would be the equivalent of several thousand today. This meritorious and generous contribution to the youth of Princeton, as well as the entire community, has never been recognized or equalled. Matthias Pinneo was the first teacher. The building was used until 1864. Salem Evangelical Church was organized this year. A son, John, was born to Dr. Samuel and Mary E. Knox. Samuel was a member of the old Whig Party. Mary was the daughter of John Culbertson. Besides John, another son, Charles, was born and a daughter, Elizabeth. Elizabeth City was evidently named for her. Elizabeth City was laid out and recorded.

ELMA PEISCHER ELLIOTT STEWART

Elma Peitscher graduated from the elementary school in Princeton and then went on to Clinton High School, where she graduated from in 1924. After attending Augustana College, she enrolled at Brown's Business College in Davenport. She taught school at Maple Glen School north of Princeton the next year and then back to Brown's to teach. She spent some time at the courthouse in the Department of Social Welfare and then back to Augustana because she was going to teach in Princeton the next two years.

Allen Elliott and Elma were married in June of 1931. They spent the next year on the Elliott farm west of Princeton, and the next seven years in Stanwood, Iowa where Allen had a bulk station for Standard Oil Co.

In 1939, they moved back to Princeton and took over the Peitscher grocery store from her parents, and spent the next 17 years in there.

In 1955, she went back to school teaching at Cody School west of LeClaire and stayed there for 12 years. Then she went to North Scott and taught for six years.

OTHER TEACHERS IN THE FAMILY

Mary Thomsen taught in Princeton for one year in the 1920's.

Ethel Peitscher taught in Princeton for seven years in the 1920's.

Elda Marie Peitscher taught school at the Lost Grove School. After her marriage, she and her husband opened a grocery store in LeClaire which they operated for 42 years.

OTHER FAMILY NOTES

Elaine Kroeger graduated from Princeton School. She was a very accomplished seamstress and cook. Her talents were in many directions. Like her father, nothing was too hard to tackle. Like the excellent refinishing job on the communion table and flower stands at the Princeton Presbyterian Church, which her father built out of walnut. The wood was from the farm he once owned.

Alberta Scharff graduated from LeClaire High School in 1936. She ran a milk route in Princeton and LeClaire for years

Tib S. '86

The Farmer's Institute



The Farmer's Institute was an annual gathering in Princeton during the 1920's. It included displays of corn, potatoes, oats, clover seed, and vegetables raised by the men during the year.

For the ladies there were displays of quilts, embroidery work, and other handwork. Also, there were displays of breads, cakes, and cookies with prizes given for the best of each class.

The highlight of the evening always included a three act play directed by the principal of the High School, with parts played by many young people of the community. Princeton would have their play on Friday night and LeClaire would give theirs on Saturday night. Some of the players included Jasper and Rachel Morgan, Ethel and Elma Peitscher, Mervin Fletcher, May Brown, Westley, Clover and Alverta Schmalz, Warren and Leola Hamilton, Mildred Strong, Bessie Norton, Orville Stewart, Art and Rosie Williams and many others. The LeClaire plays included Marguerite Hogge, Claude and Rose Brown, Inez Hulet, Lee Spear and many others.

In 1932 the Institute was moved to LeClaire and the plays became one act plays put on by different Townships, such as Allen's Grove, Butler, and Cleona. We think about 1934 was the end of the Farmer's Institute. Perhaps the depression was one cause.

Between the acts of the three act plays Warren Hamilton and Wesley Schmalz had a comedy act which was always well received.

The Roller Rink



Every Saturday afternoon or night the young people of Princeton could go to the skating rink in what is now Miller's property. (422 River Drive) John W. Fletcher and John F. Wilson had a huge nickelodeon installed up on a stage in the west end of the hall and it would belt out tunes so that everyone could skate. It was a wonderful pastime for a quarter! Only wooden wheeled skates were allowed and everyone had a good time.

The Showboat



The Show Boat was a popular attraction as it played in Cordova, Princeton, LeClaire and Port Byron. They carried their own crew and players and would tie up at the warehouse in the south end of Princeton, where they use to put on their plays. They came through this area once each summer season and were well received.

- "Tib" Stewart

1986

THE FARMERS INSTITUTE

These plays started in 1907 and continued through the 1930's. In the beginning it consisted of Princeton, Butler, LeClaire, Lincoln, Pleasant Valley and Davenport Townships.

The plays were held two nights -Princeton one night and LeClaire the other. See copy of a typical program and cast.

Mildred Holst and Hilda Strichter was president and Vice President consecutively of the Woman's Division for a number of years. Men's Division officers were Herbert Sawyer (superintendent of grain), Clarence Bowker (President), Hugo Spierk (secretary). and Wesley Schmalz the treasurer. Meetings were held in Peitschers Hall and later in the Community Hall.

-Bessie ~~Spierk~~
Sierk

THE GRASSY LANE CLUB

In 1918, Alvena Schmalz organized, assisted by Edith Barker, a home demonstration agent, the "Grassy Lane Group".

This was during the era of one room schools. Family gatherings, group singing and suppers were held at the "Grassy Lane School". Teachers also presented a program. At that time Mary Mess of Princeton was the teacher. The ladies started having monthly meetings with a lunch being served. They made dress forms during the youth of the organization - learning how to make their own clothes. The club was quite active when Rachel (Morgan) Rasche and Bessie Sierk were teachers there. Olga Kerr and Anna Graham are no doubt the only original members.

Ethel Oakes would drive her horse and buggy to meetings and pick up people along the way, followed by her yellow airdale dog.

At one time, the teacher was expected to have entertainment each month. It was finally cut down to about three or four a school year.

- Bessie Sierk

1986



PRINCETON COMMUNITY CLUB

Merlin Boll has one of the finest grocery stores to be maintained in a small town. The following is a 1928 story about his building on River Drive in Princeton.

Princeton Community Club opens a new auditorium to the public Thursday evening, November 20th, 1928.

Thursday afternoon at 5 o'clock the new Community Club house in Princeton will be opened to the public, Festivities beginning with a Chicken Supper. Preparations are all complete. There's no doubt as to what is to be had for the people of town and country have donated 200 chickens, 10 bushels of potatoes, 150 pies and all the other supper "goodies" and if anyone is a good figurer, he should know how many people may be fed.

This will be followed by a program at which A.E. Carroll, Davenport, is the principal speaker. There will be carnival features and then a dance for which "Tony's Iowans" will play.

Now why is it that Princeton is doing this? It is because of the big development of a community spirit that just a few months ago organized the Community Building Company and purchased the three story building, the erection of which was begun about 1903 by Dr. John Knox. Because of illness and financial problems, the structure was never completed.

Consequently 50 farmers and business men got together, took over the building and organized a company, and put \$10,000. into the project with splendid results. Don Haring was given the contract for a two story building with a substantial basement with a cement floored dining room and kitchen.

On the first floor are two fine store buildings, one of which is already rented to H.W. Boll, who will move his grocery stock from another building.

The second floor gives a Community Auditorium with finely equipped stage and an elegant dance floor. The room is finished with a hard wood floor, beamed ceiling, dark oak woodwork, side pull curtains with an overhang of Spanish velour. The interior is artistic and will meet the requirements of a large clientele.

Since the entire building is 46 X 76 feet an idea of its ~~splendid~~ splendid service is arrived at. Officers are President Herman Kroeger, Vice President A.H. Schmalz, Treasurer William Mess, Directors Jo Dee Croy, Henry Holst and Frank McKnight.

- Bessie Sierk

1986





Copies of
photo's provided
by Alan Stxw.

Rose Peters from Port Byron Lett
Marge Drescher - Arcadia, Tex

Ben^H Skace Sr
On the U.S. David Tipton (Snag
Boat)



1904 PRESBYTERIAN CLASS at the PRINCETON-CORDOVA ferry launch

OPERATOR: JOHN FORSYTH

present site: ALF SCHULZ residence
(DONALD)

JULIA METZGER PEASLEE, second from the right

LILLIAN DONALD, first row, left



1898 JANE HOGAN and GEORGE C. DENNIS



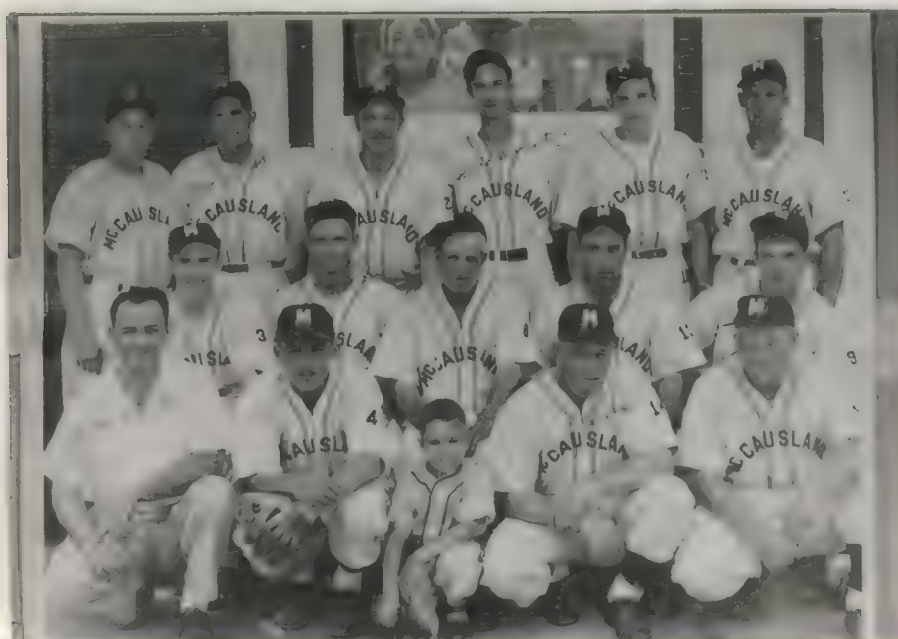
Riverfront







STANDING: VERN GRAMS, CHARLES "CHAPPIE" MORGAN, BERT MORGAN, LOUIE POSTON
 WESLEY SCHMALZ, EVERT GROVES
 SEATED: WILLIS PARISH, HAROLD "SKIN" WOOMERT, LOOTEN, ENGLEHART,
 GEORGE PARISH (BAT BOY), EMMIT MARTIN, "FLEA" SCHRADER
 ALF SCHULZ



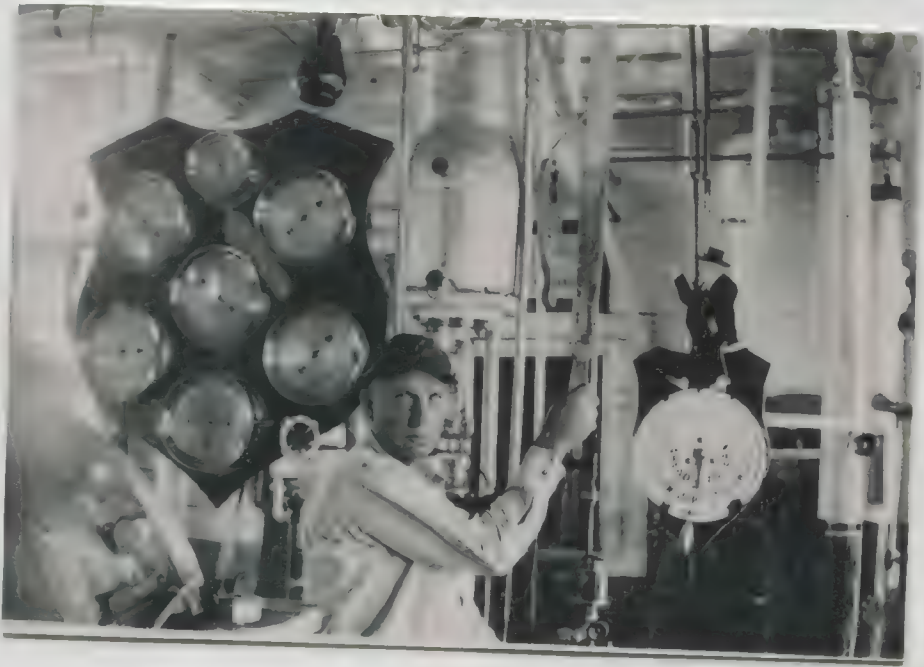
Winners in Baseball League 1932



PRINCETON, Ia., Oct. 11.—(Special)—The Princeton baseball team, under the management of Louis Poston, won 15 of the 19 games played this season. They lost only two tilts in the Scott-Clinton County league. The team was successful in winning three games in succession from the Low Moor team, which placed second.

On the picture from left to right standing, are Claude Arney, treas-

urer; Everett Groves, outfield; Ben Wilson, outfield; Lloyd Sierk, first base; Charles Morgan, second base; Wesley Schmalz, shortstop; and Verne Grams, official scorer. Sitting—Bertram Morgan, outfield; Willis Parrish, third base; Harold Woomert, catcher; Louis Poston, manager; Emmett Martin, catcher; Walter "Flea" Schroeder, pitcher; Alfred Schulz, outfield, and George Parrish, mascot.



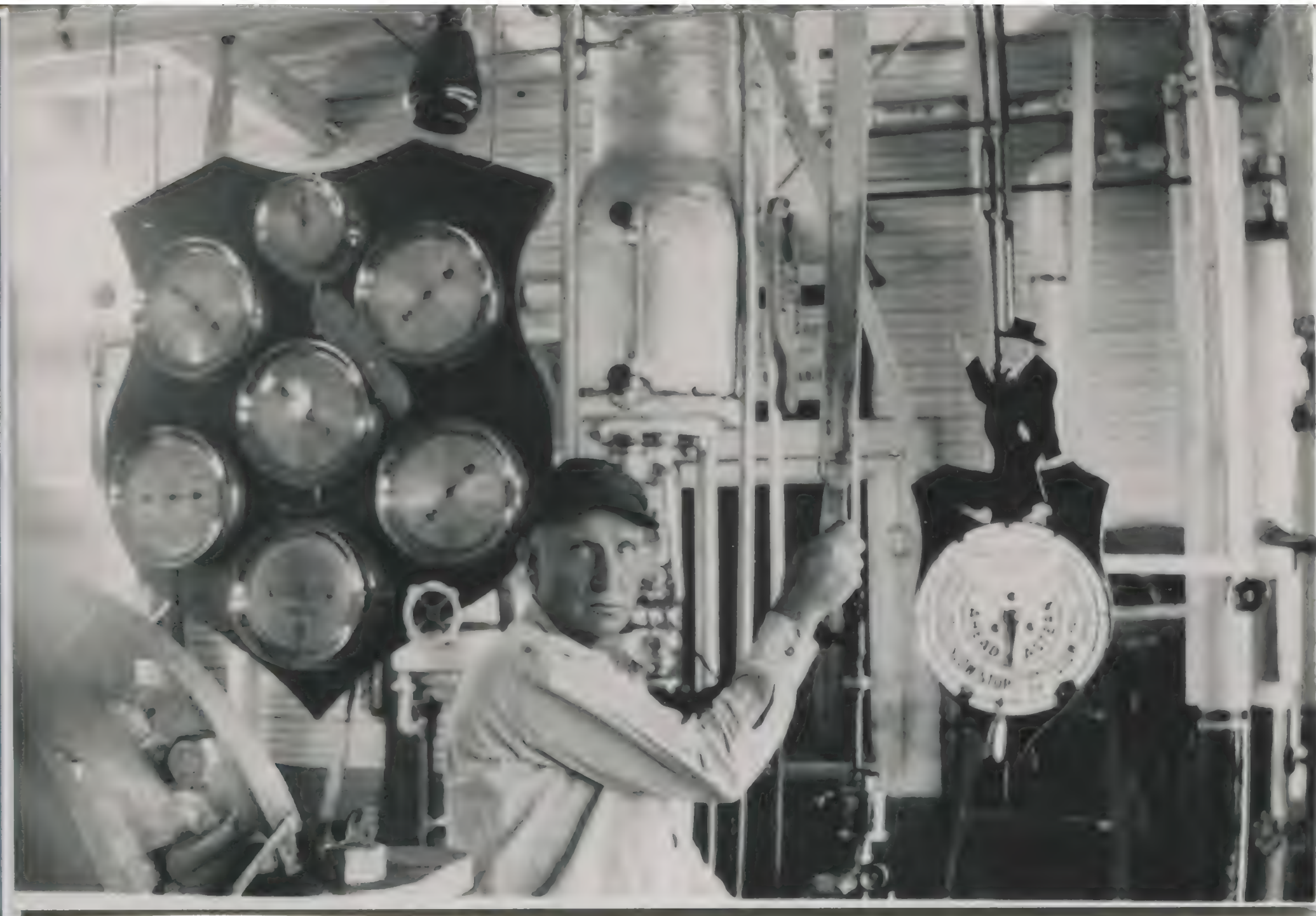
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1930s
Charles Rook 1st Eng on MS
Kecleau



FLOOD OF 1952



19305

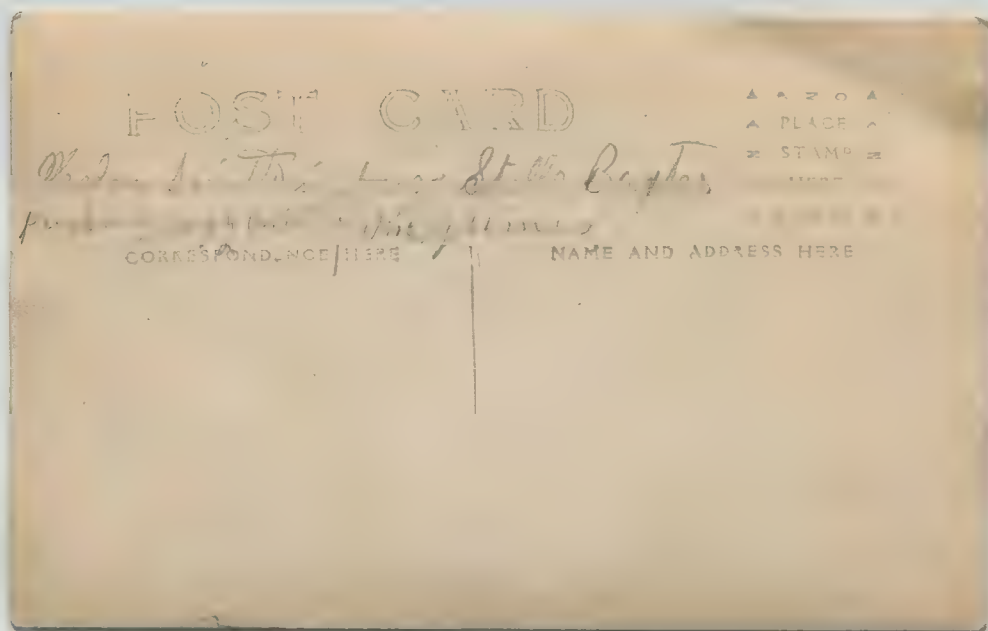
Charles Rook

1st Eng on US

LeClair



FACTORY of LORENSON HARVESTER CO.
LeCLAIRE, IOWA
Under Construction July 8, 1921



DONATED
by
Harriet + Ben
Shaw
2004

ESTER

OVERSEAS—Word has been received by Mr. and Mrs. John Litscher, Princeton, Ia., that their son, Russell J. Litscher, staff sergeant in the aviation engineers, has arrived safely in Great Britain. Sergt. Litscher notified his family in his cablegram that he had been appointed technical superintendent over heavy equipment. He entered the armed service on Aug. 20, 1941.



LITSCHER



The Wapsipi Club

The club was organized about 1916 by some 30 Davenport men interested in duck hunting. A club house cabin was built on the river bank just below Deep Slough. In later years when this was destroyed by fire a masonry clubhouse was built on the opposite Illinois shore.

All of the shooting was done from scullboats. One decoy spread was located on Williams' Bar and the other out from Lewis Island. About 100 wooden bluebill and canvas back decoys were used in each spread in addition to about 30 live mallards and generally had a pen of about 200. Ed Blocker and Paul Dennis of Princeton served many seasons as scullers. They were paid a salary for the season and received a bonus for each duck they shot when no club members were present. These ducks were placed in cold storage for winter banquets. The usual seasons kill was about 1,600 ducks!

What's in a name?



In the past, having a nickname in Princeton, was not unusual. In fact, some even had a double nickname such as Tom's Tom. An incomplete list of the 1930's follows:

Alf, Big Wrist, Boozer, Cap, Catfish, Chicken, Chink, Darb, Del, Doc, Dummy, Fick, Heine, Howd, Hooker Joe, Hub, Indian Joe, Jit, Kaiser, Bill, Kiku, Nard, Neykee, Opie, Pandy, Pappy, Press, Pude, Ratty, Red, Rocky, Skinny, Sky, Teabo, Tink, Tig (Tigarette) Louie, Vickie, Whitey, etc....

—P. Dennis





THE OLD SWIMMING HOLE

Located below the high bank of the river at the upper end of town, it afforded privacy and much enjoyment to the boys in the buff. Woe be unto anyone so modest as to wear a swim suit. The bottom had its share of sharp rocks and bazorback clams. A cut or two could be expected. Leeches also would get between the toes which had to be examined upon leaving the water. About 15 or 20 boys would frolic in the water sometimes both in the morning and in the afternoon.

After the swim it was nice to stretch out on the grass on top of the bank. Someone would always have a sack of Bull Durham and some papers. Various subjects were discussed between puffs such as fishing but the most opoular one was "what's doing tonight?" Sometimes the northbound freight would stop to permit the soughbound passenger to pull onto the siding. Invariably the former would have a cattle car of Muscatine melons. As a rule, the top end gate was without seal. As one boy said, "This is not stealing but they wished to make some samples available."

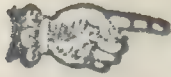


NEVER SEND A BOY



Chris Sierk was not a real big man but he was a powerhouse of strength. After giving my father an order for groceries he asked to have a barrel of salt also. My father told me to go along and help load it. His wagon was backed up to the doorway of the warehouse across the street. Several barrels of salt were near the doorway and he asked me if it made any difference which one he took. I said, "No, they all weigh the same". He brushed me aside and twirled the barrel over and into the wagon like it was empty. I returned to the store and my father asked me if I got the salt loaded. I said, "That man didn't need me." "I know, said my father, "it was just a matter of courtesy."

Paul Dennis



HOUSEBOAT DWELLERS

Most river towns had some houseboat dwellers and Princeton was no exception. Nestled below the high river bank at the upper end of town they were afforded both privacy as well as protection from the cold northwest winds. The hulls were constructed of two inch planks and a subfloor provided a generous air space beneath. One heating stove sufficed. A sandpoint and pitcher pump was the usual water supply.

Charley Carr and his wife lived just below the Alf Schulz home. After retiring as a commercial fisherman, he became the janitor of the old stone school house.

Just below the Carr boat was the location of Joe Ney's boat. Joe led a very peaceful life and had a very soft quiet manner. He enjoyed conversing with friends.

Below the present Locker Plant was the boat of Jack Phelps. It had the distinction of having a cold water spring gushing from the bank near his doorway. This was before the days of the Thermo jugs and was the last source of supply for the old burlap covered jugs for those going fishing up river. The water was evidently safe to drink as no cases of typhoid or dysentery were attributed to it. Jack was a retired railroad man and his hobby was his two inboard powered launches, the Drake and the Duck. They were painted red, white and blue and had rounded prows like Dutch whalers. After Jack's death his place was declared untenable and was destroyed.



INVITING CHOICE



Princeton at one time boasted two lodging places. One was operated by the Roach Family and the other by the Slaughter Family. A salesman, intent on staying in town for a few days, inquired of a local resident as to the availability of a room. "Oh yes", replied the latter, "You have your choice of either the Roach House or the Slaughter House."

Paul Dennis



THE WAGER

I was working in my garden when my friend True Engelhardt came to see me. He had made a wager with Clyde Nicholson that he could swim across the river and back in less than an hour. I was to follow in my rowboat to keep the swimmer advised of the time and to also be available in case of a bad cramp seizure. Each man bet ten dollars and this was placed in my billfold along with their signed statement of conditions. True entered the water at the foot of Fillmore St. and stroked towards the Illinois shore. He swam leisurely but strongly and occasionally changed strokes. When he reached the Illinois shore, he stood up and waved then plunged back in.

About mid-stream he suffered a slight leg cramp and told me to stay close. It was but a momentary delay, however, as he then struck boldly to the Iowa shore where he left the water at the old frame warehouse. Time: 45 minutes and 40 seconds.



FEW PAID - MOST DID NOT



A rank growth of scrub willows covered the riverfront for almost four blocks south of Washington Street. Two men were hired by the town council to clean the area as close to the ground as possible. They were to receive an hourly wage of thirty cents and were to furnish their own tools. The area was strewn with small rocks which required frequent filing of the axes.

Upon the sixth day of work, when but a small area remained uncut, Theodore DuBois, the Street Commissioner, drove down the street and enjoyed the river view not previously possible. He reined in his horse and beckoned the workers to come to his buggy. "You have done a very good job and have earned almost enough to pay the poll tax that you owe," he said.

— P. Dennis

POLLYWOGGIN

Two Princeton boys, during an extremely low river stage, decided to exploit the almost virgin clam bed out from Cap Rook's place. It was an area too discouraging to drag with bars at normal stages. Numerous rock ridges inclined upstream and once a bar got lodged beneath one it was next to impossible to retrieve.

Both boys were tall and, at that present stage of the river, was only waist deep to them. It was therefore unnecessary for them to submerge their heads to pick up the shells. They loaded their flatboat during the first days' work mostly with three ridges, washboards and nigger heads. Early the following morning they steamed out the meats at the foot of Chestnut St. A neighboring father and son were inquisitive bystanders. That afternoon they followed the boys to the worksite and took up a position a few feet outside of their boat. The water was a little deeper there and the men were short so they had to lower their heads beneath the surface to reach the bottom. On their first immersion their heads popped up immediately. They looked inquiringly at the two boys who were busy tossing shells in the boat. After this happened three or four times the intruders left.*

After the boys harvested six or seven boatloads the river raised and the operation ended. During the winter, however, they returned and dug the shells through the ice with large forks bolted to two-by-fours.

*Most of the shells, especially the three ridges, had an accumulation of mud and sand imbedded on them. Much of this was cleaned off by vigorously pounding two together beneath the water before tossing in the boat. This caused intolerable concussions to ears below water.



—P. Dennis



JUST A TINY SHRUB

One morning Al Pries and I were having a friendly little chat in front of the Post Office. A car with the State of Washington plates parked closeby. The driver approached us and inquired if we could direct him to someone who had knowledge of old cemeteries in the area. He was searching for the unmarked grave of his grandfather Andrew Goller. I told him I knew where it was and it was not exactly unmarked. Enroute to Oakridge Cemetery we stopped at my home to pick up the cemetery's registry.

Just a short distance from the cemetery's entrance was Andrew Goller's grave in a well kept lot. At the head of the grave was just a tiny shrub that had been spared for years by considerate caretakers. I showed Mr. Goller the register and he could see the location was in agreement with neighboring monuments.

How he voiced his appreciation that even though no contributions had ever been made for the maintenance of the cemetery his grandfather's grave was well kept. He recognized names on several stones as being families he had heard his father mention. Before returning to Washington, he gave the cemetery a liberal check for maintenance and purchased a nice marker. Now the tiny shrub stands proudly beside it.



OH! OH! OH! THOSE SHRAPNEL WOUNDS



A local war veteran, who was a bartender, would at the slightest excuse rub his stomach and moan "Oh! oh! oh! those shrapnel wounds". One day another veteran sat sipping his beer in meditation when it was interrupted by the old familiar refrain. Rushing behind the bar he ripped the surprised bartender's shirt open to view. Not the slightest vestige of even a small scratch was visible. Thenceforth the discomfort of the shrapnel wounds was never mentioned.

P. Dennis



HIDDEN CAVE

During the middle of the past century a large underground storage room was blasted from solid rock on the west side of River Drive south of Whiskey Run. Access was by a trap door over a stairway beneath the west edge of the sidewalk. After the Camanche cyclone made local people apprehensive of the danger, many kept a watchful vigil near the entrance should ominous storm signals appear. Heine Carber's adjacent tavern utilized the cave for the storage of bottled beer. The temperature of the brew thus stored was preferred by many discriminating customers. Calls for "one out of the cave" were common.

After the Carber tavern was destroyed by fire, the entrance stairwell to the cave was plugged with rocks and concrete. Later some interest was manifested in reopening the cave, but the expense of the fill removal and construction of new steps discouraged this.



MURDER ON FOURTH STREET



It was a typical small town frame house. A nice bluegrass lawn and stately evergreens gave it an exterior appearance of peacefulness. Inside however, it was fraught by domestic strife of the tenants. It ended one day when the husband shot his wife and daughter then ended his own life. It was a tragedy unprecedented in the history of the town. It was inconceivable that such a thing could happen in a community of such gentle people.

In later years the subject was avoided, and if discussed, it was with subdued voices. There never was a meal eaten nor a nights' rest taken in the house thereafter. Its doors and windows remained locked. Finally, after over half a century of vacancy it deteriorated to the extent that it had to be razed. The grounds were leveled and reseeded. The place reverted to its former appearance of earlier days.

-P. Dennis



WRONG PLACE - WRONG TIME

John "Stagee" Hire lived upstairs on the east side of River Drive in the 300 Block. During mild weather he would leave an old kitchen chair on the sidewalk next to the building and at the foot of the staircase. It was a nice place to visit with people going to Alban's Drug Store or the Post Office. Frequently he was molested by boys who would shout up the stairway, "Stagee Hire, you are a liar." They would then retreat around the corner of the bank.

One evening Stagee heard someone move his chair. Armed with a billiard cue and in bare feet, he stealthfully crept down the stairs. At the bottom he took a vicious swing with the cue and heard the thud as it hit its mark. Triumphantlly he stepped out on the sidewalk and, to his dismay, saw Curt Speer stretched out in the chair knicked cold. He had been waiting for the drug store to open. Now this could not have happened to a nicer or more friendly man. He was not hurt badly but thereafter gave the chair a wide berth. Strangely enough the molestation of Stagee Hire stopped.



PRINCETON BAKERIES

John and Lester Swanson were well experienced bakers and had a thriving business in the 400 block of River Drive. In addition to their local sales, they had outlets in neighboring towns. John's wife helped in the bakery and the father drove the delivery truck. The quality of their products was excellent but their financial management was not. Their closing was due to the latter.

Prior to the Swanson Bakery, one was operated by a man simply known locally as Indian Joe. It was on a much smaller scale and lasted but a few months.

P Dennis

HERE HE IS

As a very young reader, I was fascinated by Hans Christian Andersons' "The Ugly Duckling". Little did I realize at the time that in later years I would witness a similar transformation.

Just prior to being away from Princeton for several months, I visited my brother Walt. He lived in the little brick house in the 600 block on 5th St., known to old timers as the Bowley place. Walt often referred to 5th St. as Skyline Drive.

Walt was seated outside and had the company of "Pappy" Long and John "Chink" Rook. My attention whoever was not directed to them but to another visitor struggling to make its way uphill through the garden. The kitten could only travel a few feet at a time before falling exhausted. It finally arrived in front of Walt's chair where it collapsed. Its little wet and trembling body was but skin and bones and its neck was devoid of hair. It was indeed a pitiful sight. Walt said, "Go away kitty, I don't want you here". The kitten remained motionless. It had expended its last energy. Walt shrugged his shoulders and went into the house. He returned with a can of Pet milk and a crust of bread which he placed in a saucer before the kitten. After taking this nourishment it went to sleep beneath Walt's chair. He took an old towel that was drying on the fence and tenderly covered his new found friend.

Several months later I returned to Princeton and visited Walt. This time he had the company of Ludy Anderson. Again my attention was directed to the other company. Upon Walt's lap was stretched the most beautiful big Persian tom one could imagine. It had a big ruff around its neck which Walt was stroking and the cat was responding by playfully patting his hand. A fleeting thought flashed through my mind, but I thought that too improbable. I did, however, inquire about the starved sick kitten. Holding the beautiful Persian aloft he passed him to me chuckling and saying, "Here he is!"



P. Dennis

Happily Married 64 Years—Here's How

1939

Special to The Democrat

Princeton, Ia., June 3.—Captain and Mrs. John Rook, pioneer residents of Princeton, started their 65th year of married life Saturday by weeding their garden.

The couple who celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary Friday, paused to pose for The Democrat photographer and explain their secret of successful matrimony.

"Work in close harmony and be tolerant of each other, is the answer to happy married life," said Captain Rook.

"We have found that the best way to avoid disagreeable arguments is for one of us to find a magazine or paper to read and in a short time our difficulties are ironed out," explained Mrs. Rook.

Captain Rook is 91 years old and has resided in Princeton for 85 years. His wife is 83. They were married in Lyons, Ia., in 1875 and established their home here the same year.

Mrs. Rook was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, on Jan. 20, 1856, and moved to Lyons with her parents when a child.

Captain Rook was born on the banks of the Wapsie river and moved to Princeton with his parents in 1854.

At the age of 17 he drove a stage coach, carrying mail from Maquoketa to Osage.

He gave up the stage coach route after a few years and started his river career as a laborer on a lumber raft boat plying the Mississippi from Davenport to Beef Slough, Minn.

He was made mate on two raft boats and later was promoted to captain. For many years he piloted steamers on the river becoming a veteran riverman.

In reminiscing his experiences on the river in the old days he told of perilous trips, during stormy weather and over dangerous rapids when boats were operated without the benefits of modern signal systems to guide them.

"Traffic was heavy during the



Pictured above are Capt. and Mrs. Rook as they paused in their work of weeding the garden to pose for The Democrat photographer.

old logging days and our boats handled tons of freight and hundreds of passengers before they were replaced with modern transportation," said the veteran pilot.

Captain John retired about 20 years ago when river traffic was supplanted by faster railway transportation.

CAP'S PET

John (Cap) Rook lived in the first house north of Budd Creek on River Drive. There was just room enough for his house and barn between the I&I tracks and the base of the cliff. A few acres on the top of the hill were available for tillage or pasture. John was an early Pony Express rider. This no doubt accounts for his Indian bride. Later he took up steamboating and acquired the nickname "Cap".

At retirement he used his tillable ground for growing cane. He even had his own sorghum mill. In later years he was content to tend a few milk cows. He devised a yoke that permitted him to carry two buckets of milk to dispense to his customers in town. In this occupation he enjoyed no modern conveniences such as a milking machine or vermin and insect control. While seated on his milking stool his wife with one hand would wave a palmetto fan and, with the other hand, use a fly swatter vigorously. He had no rat problem. A giant bullsnake that lived in the barn took care of that. A certain camarade and understanding existed between the snake and Cap. Cap would talk to the snake, stroke it gently with a stick and always provided it with a bowl of milk.

This strange relationship continued for many months until late one spring. After a long winter's hibernation, the snake evidently sought some companionship with one of its kind. It wandered into the garden of Col. Miller. Now Miller was a newcomer in the community and wasn't aware of all local bits of interest. He was terrified by the awesome size of Cap's pet and rushed into the house for his shotgun. The snake, that had always been the object of kindness by man heretofore, was an easy unsuspecting target of the shotgun.

A neighbor saundered over to learn the cause of the gunshot. He was aghast when he viewed the dead Cap's pet. "Do you know what you have just done?" he asked. "You have killed Cap's pet. Better say nothing to anyone about this lest it reaches the ear of Cap."

Since the participants of this drama have long since passed away the danger of a confrontation is over and now the story can be related.

CAPTAIN JOHN ROOK



- P. Dennis

YOU AIN'T GOT NOTHIN' ON ME!

It was in the 1940's and a dance was expected to attract a large crowd. Many early arrivals stopped in at Carber's Tavern for a little pre-dance socialbility. It was in the building formerly occupied by the M.L.Hire Clothing Store. One minor anxious to be where the action was had to be told to leave, on two occasions. Upon his third visit, Heine Carber grasped him by the collar and shoved him out the front door. The youth shouted, "You will pay for this!".

During the dance intermission , the dancers viewed what appeared to be the entire business section of Princeton on fire! And much of it was! All the buildings between the general store and Whiskey Run were ablaze! Just the first floor of the Barber Shop was saved. Totally destroyed were the Scott County Bee Keepers storage building, the Carber's Tavern, Restuarant, Shoe Repair Shop, two smoke houses, and a two story barn. Heine Carber's brand new Buick in the barn was a total loss, too!

The State Fire Marshal was summoned. He interrogated the youth who had been ejected from Carber's Tavern and who had threatened reprisals. The Fire Marshall said that the youth's answer to every one of his questions was the same. "You ain't got nuttin' on me!".

Now the youth lived in the old Riverside Hotel. The entrance door was locked every night about 11:00 p.m.,but adult tenants had a key. One tenant reported that during the night the suspected youth had entered the building through the coal bin. Evidence was insufficient for a trial.

Now, Heine Carber's problems were not over . He Purchased and moved into a building between Whiskey Run and Clay Street, unaware that the ditch was privately owned and taxed property, he cantilevered a section over the ditch extending south. When he was told by the owners that his enclosure would cost \$5,000. he just about had had it! It was just a joke, however. For \$25.00 he purchased the entire width of Whiskey Run and his faith in humanity was restored.

METHODIST CHURCH IN PLEASANT VALLEY TOWNSHIP

A cabin in Pleasant Valley was the site of the second Protestant sermon preached in Scott County. Rev. Asa Turner, a noted Congregational leader in the Illinois circuit, conducted a service in the Chamberlain cabin as early as 1836. However, the Congregationalists did not attempt to establish a church there at that time.

In late 1836 Methodist services were also conducted at Pleasant Valley at the Spencer-Chamberlain cabin. Soon after this interested people established the first organized Methodist church in Scott County. Their building, a small frame structure, was located in Section two at the northwest corner of the present Middle and Forest Grove roads. Records have not been located but some of the known early members were John Earhart, John Evans, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Fry, and some members of the Dopp and Ravenhill families. It is said that many members of this congregation were buried at Fenno Cemetery, located in Section 23. This early Methodist congregation disbanded in the early 1890's. The building and ground was sold to John Lage in 1899. Foundation stones of the old building were used in constructing a corncrib on a nearby farm.

Lutheran and Baptist families sometimes held services in schoolhouses and homes, but they did not organize before 1900.



METHODIST CHURCH IN PRINCETON

Methodist circuit riders from the Rockingham circuit held services in Princeton Township at an early date. A log house owned by H.H. Pinneo was used as a school and for religious services by various groups in 1846. Some Methodists who met regularly in the "Loy Cabin Church" were G.M. Pinneo, Asenath Pinneo, Haswell Pinneo, Thomas Hubbard, Hannah Hubbard, Pendleton Hubbard, Abijah Goodrich, Rachel Goodrich, John Doty, and Marian Doty. The first resident minister was Joel Taylor.

In 1853 three men of this group, Porter McKinstry, Jerry Goodrich and James Todd built a brick church on section five on the Lost Grove Road, now known as the Argo-Princeton Road. Besides those mentioned above, other members were David Shoemaker, Daniel Conrad, David Todd, and Wesley Van Duzer. Growth in membership proved disappointing, and the group decided to build a new church on Lot four on Second Street in the town of Princeton. This was in 1858. Methodists remained active in Princeton for almost seventy years. In 1882 the church reported a membership of forty persons. The pastor was Rev. J.W. Coates. A declining membership caused the group to disband in the early 1900's. The building was sold and later acquired by the Roman Catholic Church. Today the old building is in use as a fishing bait shop.



PRINCETON METHODIST CHURCH

OUR LADY OF THE RIVER CATHOLIC CHURCH, LEDLAIRE & PRINCETON

The history of the Catholic Church in upper Scott County goes back many years. According to the Scott County Atlas, the Catholic Church was originally built as a Methodist Church in 1887, at a cost of \$2,500. Thirteen years later the Methodist congregation auctioned the church off to a Princeton resident.

Sometime, in late 1923, the Catholic Diocese of Davenport, Iowa, purchased the property. Father Cletus Zembrodt the first Catholic priest in the area. The earliest official record of the church is a letter administered on April 19, 1924, by Elaine Hirl, (Sister) and James (Amelia) Hirl, who was member of the original Methodist congregation still living in Princeton, described these early days in part as follows:

" Dear Father Conrad,

There is not too much I can remember in the early days of the church. I lived about 12 miles off to the west of the church at the time. It was very difficult to get to church on Sunday as the roads those days were very rough and if it rained or snowed, but we tried.

The old Methodist Church, hadn't been used in years. The grounds were grown up in large weeds, I guess there was no one to take care of the place. We Catholics needed a church, (we all went to St. Ann's at the time. at that time at the time) so we on the Bishop's order to build a new one. I don't know from whom.

An old shed stood in the back near the alley, which we used to store some of the families who formed the church, and the families were: the Victor Randolph's, Bill Doyle, (Sister) and James Hirl, the Maher family, Ace Keenan, Fuzzy Keenan, and a few more that I can't remember. After we started to build the church, each Sunday when Father Zembrodt came to church threatening notes pushed under the door saying the church would be closed up, etc. It bothered him but he didn't care, then he came to church and he was even more threatened. One day when they saw an old pot belly stove we had in the room, they ended when they saw we had a stove in the room, and they saw that old stove stood in the corner of the room, and all of a sudden, we all hovered around it, and we all went and looked at our backs and feet. We were all very cold, and they were, with no heaters in our church.

There was a partition all the way across about half way. There was a few carpet on the floor and a few old dark chairs (and a few old chairs), and an old pump organ. Mrs. Frank (Sister) was our organist. Later, Evelyn Hirl Michl (Sister) was.

When we had central heating, Father would ask the altar boys to take his robes and the overshoes to the stove and warm them up good so he could say mass more comfortably....

Sincerely, Amelia Hirl"

OUR LADY OF THE RIVER CATHOLIC CHURCH, LECLAIRE & PRINCETON

Twice before the establishment of St. Henry Mission Parish in LeClaire, Catholic services were instituted there. Each time, however, obstacles were too difficult to overcome and the attempts were abandoned. On October 6, 1935, however, the church was dedicated by Bishop Henry P. Rohlfman, after whose patron saint the church was named. Again, a building which previously had served as a Protestant Church, was used. The establishment of St. Henry's was largely the result of the efforts of Fr. Mell G. Morrin, who served as pastor until 1941.

Over the years since the establishment, the two mission parishes were served by a number of priests. After Fr. Morrin, St. Henry's was served by Fr. Raymond J. Murphy (1941-1943), Fr. Carroll A. McGivern (1943-1945), Fr. John P. Dolan (1945-1947), and Fr. Francis W.J. Duncan (1947-1949). St. James was served by Fr. Cletus Zembrodt (1923-1927), Fr. Morin (1927-1937), Fr. Lawrence H. Mork (1937-1946), Fr. Thomas J. Taylor (1946-1952 and 1954-1958), Fr. Anthony L. Conrad (1952-1953 and 1958-1969), and Fr. Duncan (1953-1954). all of these priests were full-time teachers at St. Ambrose College and Academy in Davenport. The number of Catholics in the area grew over the years, to the point where it became feasible for a single parish with a resident pastor to serve the entire area. This area includes approximately 80 square miles of Upper Scott County.

Answering the unanimous request of members of both parishes, on June 1, 1969 Bishop Gerald O'Keefe merged St. Henry Catholic Church of LeClaire and St. James Catholic Church of Princeton into Our Lady of the River Catholic Church and assigned Father Anthony Conrad its first pastor. Members of the new parish elected the following members to serve on the first Parish Council: Arman Aranda, Wayne Cheramy, Ray Doyle, Mrs. Harold (Betty) Ehrecke, Mrs. Gerald (Audrey) Heidgerken, Gene Holst, Don Moench, Mrs. Alfred (JO) Wellendorf. William Niebruegge and Bruce Gaylor were appointed Lay Directors. at the time of the merging, there were about 80 families active in the two churches.

Within a short time it became apparent that the two small church buildings were inadequate for the needs of the growing parish.

In 1971, the Parish Council decided to begin investigating the possibility of building a parish center between LeClaire and Princeton. With the approval of Bishop O'Keefe, a 5-acre tract of land was purchased on a bluff overlooking the Mississippi River. Plans were developed for the parish center, a multi-purpose building to include the pastor's residence. Later, however the tract was sold and October 15, 1972, another 5-acre tract was purchased at the foot of the bluff, midway between the two towns. Building plans were adapted to the new site. Gerald H. Miller, of Bracke, Hayes &

Miller, was chosen as the architect to draw the plans for the buildings, the plans were later modified for the new site.

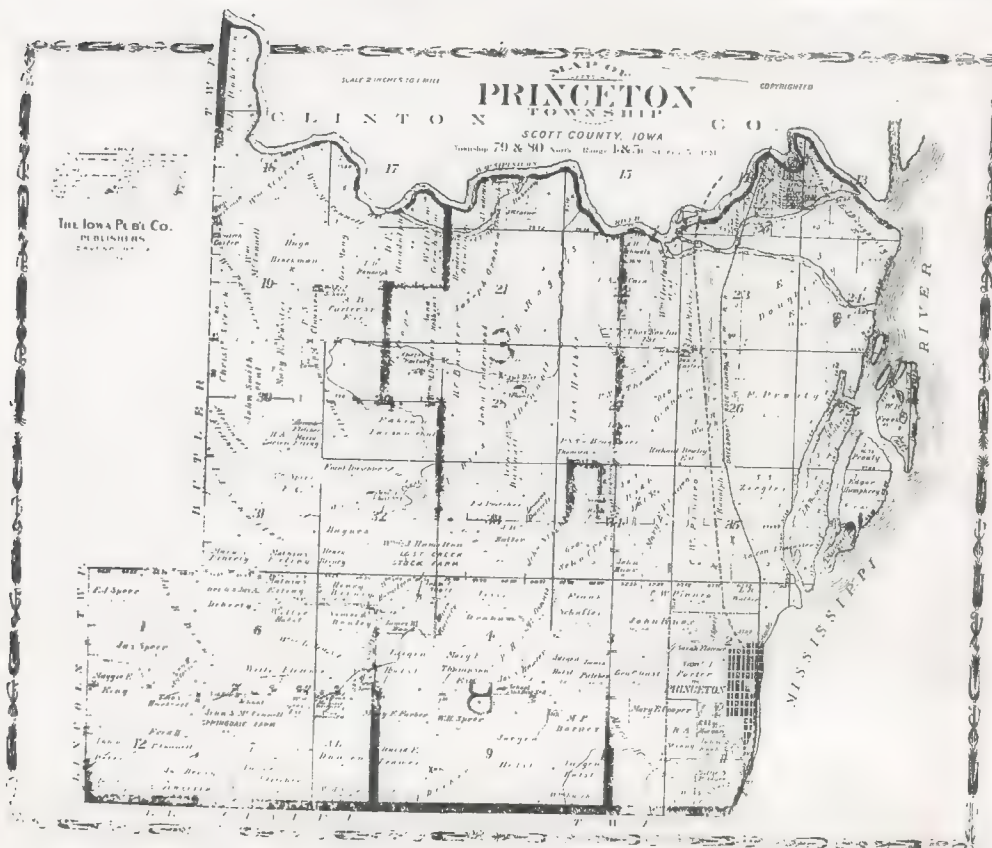
Ground breaking ceremonies were held by Bishop O'Keefe, assisted by Fr. P. McGrath, Dean of the Davenport Deanery, on November 5, 1972. Fr. McGrath blessed the cornerstone of the nearly completed Worship Educational and Social Center on October 7, 1973 and concelebrated the opening Mass with the pastor, Fr. Conrad. The buildings, to serve the needs of the now 130-family parish, was dedicated on May 19, 1974. The construction of the building was contracted to Starr Homes of Moline, Illinois, but much of the interior finish work was done by parishoners.

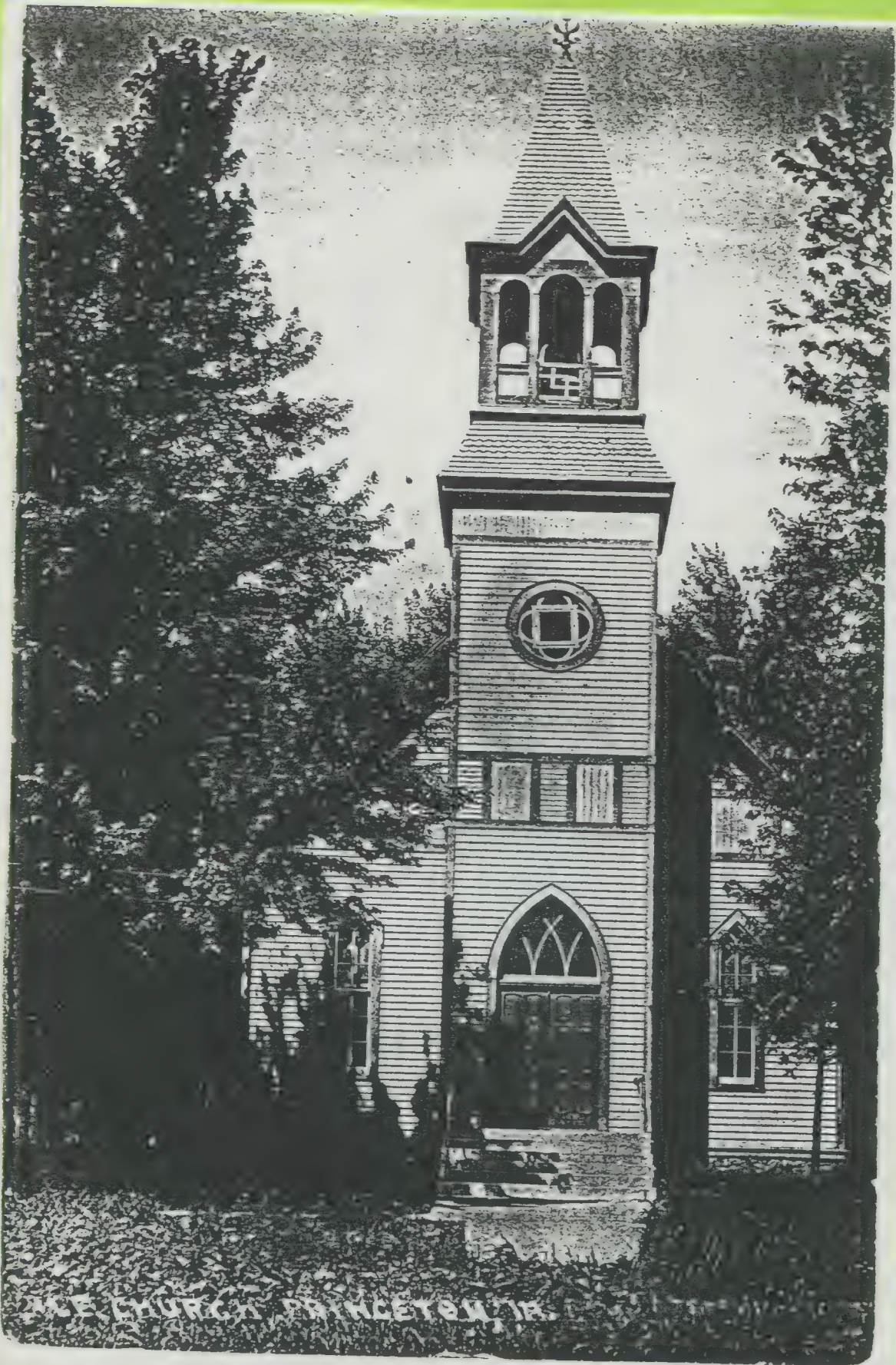
Fr. Conrad served as pastor until 1975 when he was briefly followed by Fr. R. Doyle in 1976 Fr. James P. Conroy is pastor.

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ZION LUTHERAN, TOWN OF PRINCETON

In 1888 Rev. J.L. Hammond, then the pastor at Salem Lutheran or Lost Grove Church, arranged to conduct Lutheran services at 2:30 p.m. at Dennis Hall in Princeton every Sunday afternoon. This was to be on a trial basis. The attendance was so gratifying that soon plans were made to construct a church in the town. The building lot on Second Street was donated by Christian Schmalz. The church, built in 1898, was called Zion Lutheran. Some of the early members were Mr. and Mrs. Christian Schmalz, son Andrew, and daughters Anna, Ella, and Mrs. E.L. Slaughter. Others were Mr. and Mrs. Justus Pope, Mr. and Mrs. Adam McCoy, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Helble, Mrs. Oliver Keiholtz, Mrs. Sophia Like, Mr. and Mrs. William Olinger, and Mrs. Hannah Pollock, and her two daughters. The first permanent full-time pastor of this group was Rev. M.L. Kunkelman. Salem Lutheran Church at Lost Grove, "Old Brick", still had occasional services until the 1920's. The well-kept cemetery is still in use. The old brick church was razed in the 1940's.



**ZION LUTHERAN
PRINCETON, IOWA**



LUTHERAN CHURCH.
PRINCETON IOWA.

LUTHERAN CHURCH, PRINCETON TOWNSHIP, RURAL

The brick building on Section five, built by the Methodist group in 1853 as related, was purchased by Lutherans in 1856. The church was organized by Rev. Daniel Garber or Rev. R. Shearer (records conflict). Those attending an organizational meeting in January 1852 were J.C. Rice, John and Margaret Gast, Dr. S. and Angeline Gast, Catherine Earhat, J.A. and Matilda Gast, and H.C. and Sarah Gast. Services were irregular until 1856 when Rev. Shearer took permanent charge of the congregation of only eleven members. The congregation grew slowly. Attendance was often poor because of the bad condition of the roads. The conviction grew that much better attendance would result if the church were located in the town of Princeton.



SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH, PRINCETON TOWNSHIP, RURAL



PRINCETON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, TOWN OF PRINCETON

The Princeton Presbyterian Church was first organized through the efforts of a committee from the LeClaire Presbyterian Church. Since the two towns were only five miles apart, it was thought that some kind of dual-pastorate arrangement might be possible. The first service was held in a home in November 1854. Charter members present were Sarah Gast, Henry Gast, D.D. Culbertson, Mary E. Culbertson, Mary McCausland, Mary E. Knox, John Moyer, Phillip Moyer, John L. Gast, Margaret Gast, George Beard, Matilda Beard, Charles Sikes, Isabel Sikes, Samuel Porter, and Elizabeth Porter. The church was built in 1888 and is still in use. The Princeton and LeClaire churches were served by the same pastors from 1854 through 1944.

A prominent Presbyterian minister who had charge of the Princeton church in 1863 was Rev. James McBride. McBride's son, Thomas H. McBride, became president of the University of Iowa.



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PRINCETON, IA



History

The site of Princeton was one of the three principal villages of the Fox Nation as noted in the journal of Zebulon M. Pike. The first permanent claimants to land in the township were Giles M. and Haswell H. Pinneo in the fall of 1835. The first settler was Daniel Hire, who settled about four miles from the river in 1837. Benjamin Pike opened the first store in the township in 1838. The first frame house was built by Daniel Hire in 1837. Benjamin Doolittle built the first ferry across the Wapsipinicon River between Davenport and Camanche in 1838. Jonas Barber built the first mill in 1838. Jacob Rose built the first distillery in 1838.

The City of Princeton was laid out in 1852 and recorded in the same year. The first post office was built in 1841 and Pinneo was appointed Postmaster. P. F. Pike built the first store in 1840. Also in 1840 the Presbyterian and Methodist churches were organized.

The City was incorporated in January, 1857. In 1858 Samuel Porter was elected the first mayor. The population at this time was 500.

In 1860 the first rail service to Chicago was completed.

In 1910 the first newspaper was founded. It was called The Princeton

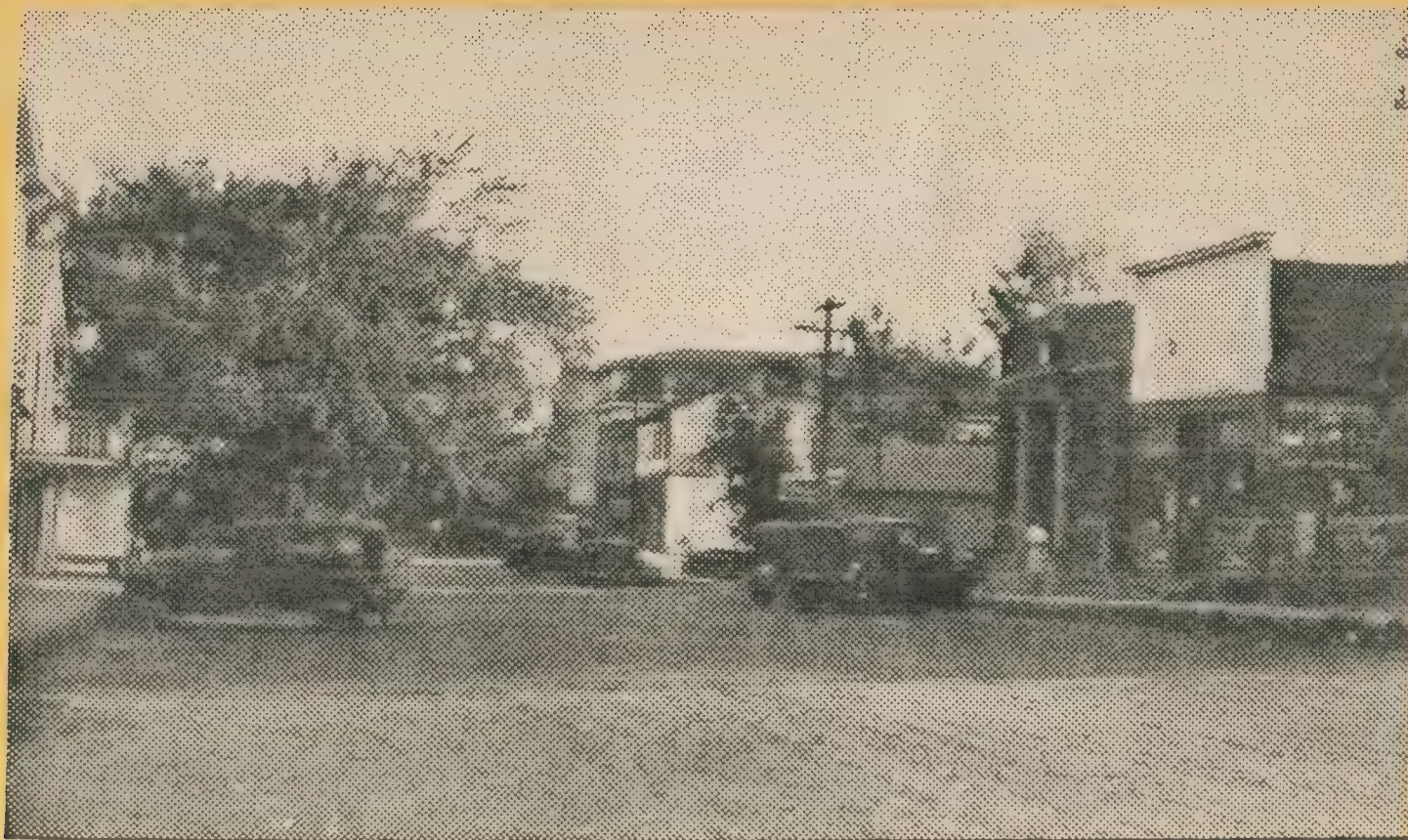
Review.

Transportation

In general, Princeton enjoys excellent accessibility to local, regional, and national transportation facilities.

Highways

U.S. Route 67 runs north and south through Princeton and connects to the Interstate 80 loop around the Quad-Cities to the south. U.S. 67 joins the I-80 rivercrossing interchange south of Princeton at LeClaire.



PRINCETON, IOWA

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Omar Printing Co., LeClaire, Iowa

Princeton, Iowa

The first plat of Princeton, Iowa, was recorded in 1853 by Robert Bell, George H. Bell and John Culbertson, proprietors of the new town.

Princeton actually was created by the melding of two hamlets, Pinnacle Point on the spur of a bluff that jutted into the Mississippi, and Elizabeth City, a quarter of a mile up-river.

The first settlers in the area were Giles Pinneo and H.P. Haswell, who claimed their land in 1835 and moved there in the spring of 1836. Haswell lived on the village site in a cabin of neatly-hewn logs.

In the next four years, nearly 30 settlers joined the original two. The first was Thomas Hubbard, Sr., who lived across the Mississippi and moved to the west side in 1836.

At first, supplies came from Fort Armstrong, then from Davenport, where a member of the Pinneo family took a load of beans to trade for supplies and clothing. Stricken with a fit of ague on the way, Pinneo was too sick to trade advantageously. He sold his beans for 35 cents a bushel and bought calico for an inflated price of 35 cents a yard.

The first frame house in Princeton was built in 1837 by Daniel Hire.

In 1838, Benjamin Pike came from Rockingham and set up a store. The next store was the establishment called Lawyer Hammond and Company, and in 1848, W.F. Breckenridge opened a store in the Pinnacle Point area.

During the early days of steamboating and rafting, two saloons on the corner of Front and Clay streets kept the atmosphere rowdy, and the ditch on the west side of Clay Street was called Whiskey Run. The area was not safe for women, and even the men who had business on Front Street armed themselves. Fights were not unusual, but no fatalities were reported.

Benjamin Doolittle established a ferry across the Wapsi in 1838, the same year that Jacob Rose built his distillery.

The first settlers had no children, and there was little need for a school until 1846-47, when Hannah Peaslee taught in H.H. Pinneo's log house. Building a school was discussed, but an 1850 dispute about its location delayed the matter until 1852. The first teacher in the new school was Mathias Pinneo. In 1856, it was discovered that the title to the school land was no good, and an identical school was built elsewhere. This

building was used until 1864, when classes were moved to the two floors of a hall on Front Street.

One of Princeton's oldest landmarks is the Riverview Hotel, now the Kane apartments. This stagecoach stop and haven for river travelers had an adjoining livery stable, and ferry service was available to Cordova across the river. Another early hotel was the Revere House located south of the present Post Office.

Robert Pope opened a store in 1853, and interior carpenter work was done by Edward Russell, later Davenport postmaster and editor of the Davenport Gazette.

Princeton was incorporated in 1857 and was one of the last cities and towns in Iowa to be incorporated individually. Samuel Porter was the first mayor. When Porter resigned after a few months, William Shaw was elected to the office. At this time, the population was 250.

Businesses of 1857 included the Walter and Armstrong store, two public houses, one blacksmith shop, and a sawmill. There was one church and 46 houses.

The Methodist Episcopalians built a brick church near Lost Grove in 1856, selling it to the Lutherans in 1858, when they built a church in Princeton. The Princeton church was replaced in 1888.



The Princeton Presbyterian church was built in 1888.

Princeton, Iowa

The Presbyterians first attended services in Le-Claire, organizing a Princeton congregation in 1854. A prominent Presbyterian minister was the Rev. James Bovard McBride, who took the charge in 1863. McBride was related to Edgar Allen Poe, one of his grandfathers was a Revolutionary War captain, and the other was a British Navy admiral. McBride's son, Thomas Huston McBride, was a noted Iowa scholar and educator.

August Richter, the German historian, writes, "In expectation of a lucrative practice in a growing town and a district of well-to-do farmers, many doctors put out their shingles in Princeton, but few remained longer than a year or two." Between 1853 and 1878, 15 physicians located in Princeton, "among them several good ones."

One of the earliest and best was Dr. Samuel Knox, who came to Princeton in 1856 and practiced there until his death in 1887. His son, Dr. John Knox, followed him in the practice. One Dr. Gast was considered to be a cancer specialist, and it was reported, "None have returned after his treatment. The doctor cures without the use of the knife."

Dr. Thomas Gault was Mayor of Princeton in 1859. About this time, F.G. Welch built a three-story drygoods store "but did not live to enjoy it," and A. Kierney started a tin shop. Businesses of 1859 included seven stores, a druggist, four shoemakers, 15 carpenters, six blacksmiths, two tailors, a livery stable, two steam sawmills, two steam grist mills, one steam planing mill, two carriage shops, two hotels and one lawyer. The town had two churches, two public schools and two private schools.



This lovely, old home on Princeton's River Drive pre-dates 1860, when the town expected to become a bustling city.

Princeton was at the height of its glory in 1860. The railroad was expected, water power was unlimited, and the town aspired to greatness.

The first major fire was in February, 1862, when the business houses of Pope & Chamberlain, H. Blake and Christian Schmalz burned. In 1884, J.W. Walker's flouring mill burned, and when the store that housed the Post Office caught fire, the mail was the first thing saved. A bucket brigade prevented the flames from spreading to adjoining buildings.

By 1867, the population was 1,000. The town had two hotels, the Leslie House kept by James Leslie, and F.G. Eisleben's Davenport House. Drygoods and grocery stores were operated by the Gordon brothers, Sam Scott, Asa Hooper, James W. Suiter, H.H. Hurlburt, C.C. Lorraine and David Miller.

Harness makers of 1867 were W.G. Martine and G.B. Moyer, and the shoemakers were B. Metzger and Hardt & Company. W.D. and J.W. Davis and Asa Hooper operated tin shops, and the blacksmiths were Hy Couser, John Reed, M. Moore and Sam Williams. H.G. King was the wagonmaker, Charles Rich made agricultural implements, J. Fanning ran the livery stable, B. Bigelow was a painter, and the tailors were Christ Schmalz and Jacob Eurich.

In 1867, Dr. Samuel Knox and a Dr. Blackburn wrote prescriptions to be filled at the drug stores of J.W. Parcell and W.F. Culbertson.

I.J. Pinneo ran the grist mill, Isaac Hess and L.S. Chamberlin were the steam sawmill operators, and J.W. Walker and A. Patterson owned the planing mill. Proprietors of the grain warehouses were Samuel Scott, Robert Pope and H.H. Hurlburt.

Princeton declined in the post-Civil War period because of civic indifference, according to Richter. In 1878, an election was held to decide whether the old charter and city organization should be abandoned. A municipal election had not been held for eight years, and the streets "had been left to take care of themselves." The people of Princeton voted for a change, temporarily electing W.H. Thompson mayor. In the next regular election, D.H. Culbertson was elected mayor.

In spite of this attempt at reform, the population had decreased by three-fourths in 1882. Even so, the town had spirit. On the Fourth of July, 1888, a large procession started for Pinneo's

Princeton, Iowa

Grove led by the LeClaire Silver Cornet Band. The steamer Brother Jonathan brought a large delegation from Camanche, and the Wes Rambo brought people from LeClaire.

A four-horse wagon carried 65 singing school children dressed in red, white and blue, and the Methodist ladies provided a dinner "at moderate cost." Then the rains came. The crowd of 1,500 stood patiently in the downpour for two hours before they gave up and tried to go home. High water stranded many of them in Princeton, where hospitable townspeople took them in.

Princeton has had several newspapers, but they did not last long. L.R. Walker founded the Princeton Reporter in 1900, and Frank Hamann started to publish the Princeton Herald in 1905.

The Princeton Savings Bank was organized in 1904 and closed in 1908, the year the Princeton Farmers' Savings Bank was established.

Paul B. Dennis, a Princeton native who has written a book of reminiscence about his hometown, "From Out of the Past," is the son of Job Dennis, an early merchant and man of influence in Princeton. Paul Dennis has an Indian mound in his yard which was opened and studied by the Putnam Museum in 1940. The burial chamber of arched stone contained nine skeletons and many artifacts of the Hopewell culture. Ringed with perennial flowers, the mound must be one of the loveliest in the nation.

Another excavation at Fifth and Fillmore streets produced a skeletal fossil that Chicago and St. Louis experts believe to be the bones of a prehistoric zebra about 45,000 years old.

Dennis says the old stone house at Rock Cut just north of Princeton was the home of Aaron Lancaster, a skilled gunsmith who also invented an improved windmill and was robbed of the profits of his design.

Job Dennis's first store was in what is now the Allsbrow Marina shop. The building later became a restaurant, pool room and barber shop. Dennis also owned and operated Princeton's only steamboat, a small sidewheeler called the Outing used for freight hauling and clamming.

Benjamin Metzger, a German shoemaker, led the Princeton Cornet Band organized soon after the Civil War. He also taught string and brass instruments.

Job Dennis and two friends, Mack Hire and Ed Martin, were lonely Democrats in a sea of

Princeton Republicans, and they consoled each other at the M.L. Hire clothing store, called Princeton's Tammany Hall. Not until the election of Woodrow Wilson in 1913 did the Tammany Trio take heart.

Walter Anderson was the Bicentennial Mayor of Princeton, and Gloria Allen was the City Clerk.

The population of Princeton is 630, and Mrs. Allen says, "We have grown since the 1970 census."

A squad car patrols Princeton evenings and weekends, and the police department consists of two part-time officers and a radio dispatcher. The volunteer fire department has about 30 members.

Princeton's churches are Lutheran and Presbyterian, and Our Lady of the River Catholic church is shared with LeClaire.

Part of the North Scott Community School system, Princeton keeps its grade-schoolers at home at Virgil Grissom school and sends junior and senior high school students to Eldridge.

The town has no doctors, dentists or lawyers, and there is no mortuary.

Business and industry includes Farmers' Savings Bank, a plant that manufactures soldering materials, a quarry, one grocery store, two gas stations combined with repair shops, two garages, two beauty shops, one barber shop, two taverns, one restaurant, one bait shop, two fish markets, a bulk oil dealer, one antique shop, one rubber stamp shop, a radio and television repair shop, one real estate agent, one seed corn company, a blacksmith who shoes horses, a trailer court, a hotel that rents apartments, a rooming house called the Princeton Hilton by the natives, a sawmill, a telephone company maintenance center, and a poultry farm inside the city limits.

Active organizations include the Men's Civic Club, the Volunteer Firemen, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Brownies, and six baseball teams (three for girls and three for boys).

Princeton has no annual celebration, but the town did throw a birthday party for the nation in the Bicentennial July.

The three city parks are a river front picnic and boat trailer area; the old school park with a ball diamond, playground equipment, tennis and basketball facilities; and Water Tower Park with playground equipment, a lighted ballfield, a concession building, a shelter and picnic grills.

Princeton, Iowa

"We really have good water here," Mrs. Allen says, "and of course we have a beautiful view of the river."

Al Pries, a retired employee of Iowa-Illinois Gas and Electric Company, drops in at City Hall and adds, "It's a good place to fish."

Pries notes that in 1919, there were only 14 houses between Princeton and LeClaire. Now, residences stretch in a continuous line, and he says, "People like to get away from the city."

Mrs. Allen says, "I have lived here since I was five, and it's a nice, quiet little town. People are building though. We have three or four subdivisions under development."

Like Old Man River, Princeton just keeps rolling along. Its setting delighted the human eye long before Giles Pinneo and H.P. Haswell first saw it and claimed it. Because the metropolitan hopes of 1860 were not realized, Princeton's river vista is unmarred.

The Farmer's Institute



The Farmer's Institute was an annual gathering in Princeton during the 1920's. It included displays of corn, potatoes, oats, clover seed, and vegetables raised by the men during the year.

For the ladies there were displays of quilts, embroidery work, and other handwork. Also, there were displays of breads, cakes, and cookies with prizes given for the best of each class.

The highlight of the evening always included a three act play directed by the principal of the High School, with parts played by many young people of the community. Princeton would have their play on Friday night and LeClaire would give theirs on Saturday night. Some of the players included Jasper and Rachel Morgan, Ethel and Elma Peitscher, Mervin Fletcher, May Brown, Westley, Clover and Alverta Schmalz, Warren and Leola Hamilton, Mildred Strong, Bessie Norton, Orville Stewart, Art and Rosie Williams and many others. The LeClaire plays included Marguerite Hogge, Claude and Rose Brown, Inez Hulet, Lee Spear and many others.

In 1932 the Institute was moved to LeClaire and the plays became one act plays put on by different Townships, such as Allen's Grove, Butler, and Cleona. We think about 1934 was the end of the Farmer's Institute. Perhaps the depression was one cause.

Between the acts of the three act plays Warren Hamilton and Wesley Schmalz had a comedy act which was always well received.

The Roller Rink



Every Saturday afternoon or night the young people of Princeton could go to the skating rink in what is now Miller's property. (422 River Drive) John W. Fletcher and John F. Wilson had a huge nickelodeon installed up on a stage in the west end of the hall and it would belt out tunes so that everyone could skate. It was a wonderful pastime for a quarter! Only wooden wheeled skates were allowed and everyone had a good time.

The Showboat



The Show Boat was a popular attraction as it played in Cordova, Princeton, LeClaire and Port Byron. They carried their own crew and players and would tie up at the warehouse in the south end of Princeton, where they use to put on their plays. They came through this area once each summer season and were well received.

- "Tib" Stewart

1986

THE FARMERS INSTITUTE

These plays started in 1907 and continued through the 1930's. In the beginning it consisted of Princeton, Butler, LeClaire, Lincoln, Pleasant Valley and Davenport Townships.

The plays were held two nights -Princeton one night and LeClaire the other. See copy of a typical program and cast.

Mildred Holst and Hilda Strichter was president and Vice President consecutively of the Woman's Division for a number of years. Men's Division officers were Herbert Sawyer (superintendent of grain), Clarence Bowker (President), Hugo Sierk (secretary). and Wesley Schmalz the treasurer. Meetings were held in Peitschers Hall and later in the Community Hall.

-Bessie Sierk
XXXXXX
Sierk

THE GRASSY LANE CLUB

In 1918, Alvena Schmalz organized, assisted by Edith Barker, a home demonstration agent, the "Grassy Lane Group".

This was during the era of one room schools. Family gatherings, group singing and suppers were held at the "Grassy Lane School". Teachers also presented a program. At that time Mary Mess of Princeton was the teacher. The ladies started having monthly meetings with a lunch being served. They made dress forms during the youth of the organization - learning how to make their own clothes. The club was quite active when Rachel (Morgan) Rasche and Bessie Sierk were teachers there. Olga Kerr and Anna Graham are no doubt the only original members.

Ethel Oakes would drive her horse and buggy to meetings and pick up people along the way, followed by her yellow airdale dog.

At one time, the teacher was expected to have entertainment each month. It was finally cut down to about three or four a school year.

- Bessie Sierk

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PRINCETON COMMUNITY CLUB

Merlin Boll has one of the finest grocery stores to be maintained in a small town. The following is a 1928 story about his building on River Drive in Princeton.

Princeton Community Club opens a new auditorium to the public Thursday evening, November 20th, 1928.

Thursday afternoon at 5 o'clock the new Community Club house in Princeton will be opened to the public, Festivities beginning with a Chicken Supper. Preparations are all complete. There's no doubt as to what is to be had for the people of town and country have donated 200 chickens, 10 bushels of potatoes, 150 pies and all the other supper "goodies" and if anyone is a good figurer, he should know how many people may be fed.

This will be followed by a program at which A.E. Carroll, Davenport, is the principal speaker. There will be carnival features and then a dance for which "Tony's Iowans" will play.

Now why is it that Princeton is doing this? It is because of the big development of a community spirit that just a few months ago organized the Community Building Company and purchased the three story building, the erection of which was begun about 1903 by Dr. John Knox. Because of illness and financial problems, the structure was never completed.

Consequently 50 farmers and business men got together, took over the building and organized a company, and put \$10,000. into the project with splendid results. Don Haring was given the contract for a two story building with a substantial basement with a cement floored dining room and kitchen.

On the first floor are two fine store buildings, one of which is already rented to H.W. Boll, who will move his grocery stock from another building.

The second floor gives a Community Auditorium with finely equipped stage and an elegant dance floor. The room is finished with a hard wood floor, beamed ceiling, dark oak woodwork, side pull curtains with an overhang of Spanish velour. The interior is artistic and will meet the requirements of a large clientele.

Since the entire building is 46 X 76 feet an idea of its ~~splendid~~ splendid service is arrived at. Officers are President Herman Kroeger, Vice President A.H. Schmalz, Treasurer William Mess, Directors Jo Dee Croy, Henry Holst and Frank McKnight.

- Bessie Sierk

1986



J.D. DENNIS GENERAL STORE

For years the store, with its upstairs hall, provided the greatest incentive for people to come to town for business or pleasure. It carried a large stock of provisions, hardware, shoes, etc. and in addition, in conjunction, operated a grain elevator, ice house, lumber yard and was agent for all the packet boats. It also operated a small steamboat.

The only wagon scale in town was in front of the store. Farmers could sell their grain, butter and eggs at all times. Clammers could sell their shells.

The upper hall was vital to the community life. Some of the activities there were as follows; Home Talent Plays, School Graduation Exercises, Farmers Institute, Basketball, Bank Meetings, Dances, and even Roller Skating.

The first recorded event in the hall was in 1888. The newly organized Princeton Lutheran Church conducted their first services there.

The patronage for the above extended over an eight or nine mile inland area. Packet boats frequently loaded provisions across the street from the store. The town of Princeton would have been very dead without all of this!

THE WHITE POTATO RIVER

In notes to the record of Pike's expedition, the editor, Dr. Elliott Coves, has a smile over the river which forms the northern boundary of Scott County. To quote him: "At 4 p.m., Pike passed on the left of Iowa side a river whose name is perhaps the most remarkable thing about it - WABISAPENICUN, Pike's map; WABISIPINEKAN, Pike's text farther on; WABISAPINCUN, Lewis and Clark's map of 1814; WAPISIPINICON, Long's; WABEZIPINKAN, Nicollet's; WABESAPINICA, Featherston Haugh's, WAPSIPINICON, Owen's and United States engineers'; WAPSIPINECON, G.L.O.

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WALL-BESSA-PINNECON-SE PO

(the place of white potatoes)

The name is derived from the two Indian words "WAUBESSA", white or swan-like, and "PINNEAC", a potato, "SEPO" being the Indian name for river. The river was probably named from the fact of great quantities of the wild artichoke being found in that region.

September 1, 1956

PLAN SHOWING OF FILM ON 'ROCK PARADISE'

Created By Princeton Man As Memorial To Wife

Overlooking the Mississippi river as a living memorial to his late wife is the "Admiration Gardens" on Peter P. Krieger of Princeton, Ia., who will show color films of his rock paradise at the American Rock Garden Society's meeting next Sunday, Sept. 9, at 7:30 p.m. on the lawn of the Garden Center at Vander Veer park in Davenport.

Krieger started his garden some 11 years ago soon after his wife died. At first, there were only the outcroppings of rock on top, but with diligence and patience and using the pick and grubbing hoe, he cleared away the brush and weeds exposing the new present 700 feet of limestone rock and cliffs.

The property faces the river and has an unsurpassed view.

As a visitor wanders up and down the orderly paths, going from the wild flower varieties into the herb divisions and on to varieties raised entirely from propagated seeds, every conceivable variety of gentian and pink is found.

In the spring masses of tulips grow in a glorious profusion of color. In June there is the unusual display of color in the varieties of cactus. From some cactus fruit, after the coarse seeds are strained out, there may be obtained a delicious jelly.

There is every known variety of perennial—the favorites that seed themselves and settle comfortably in the rock crevices for their lifetime.

Krieger is constantly harvesting seeds for what is known as the "seed exchange." Available to all members of the Rock Garden and Alpine Garden Societies all over the world, the most famous societies are centered in and about England where environment and interest hold top honors.

Krieger also holds a fellowship in the Royal Horticultural Society, an international group to which a member has to be elected. He has two daughters, five grandchildren and two sons. Both sons are in the Navy at present.

"The best to be said about rock gardening is the satisfaction to be derived from it," Krieger said.

"There is always the pleasure of something certain to look forward to...always the change in color and texture and harmony."

He is delighted to receive visitors at any time in his garden. His visitors' book contains signatures from almost every state in the Union in addition to a number of foreign countries.

ECHO REBEKAH LODGE NO.104, I.O.O.F.
PRINCETON, IOWA

Charter members of Echo Rebekah Lodge #104 was instituted in October 21, 1880. The lodge consisted of 9 gentlemen (Brothers) and 7 ladies (Sisters). Officer chairs were filled by 12 members. The First Constitution was written and recorded as: This Lodge shall be known and entitled as Rebekah Lodge #104, of the Degree Daughters of Rebekah, I.O.O.F. under the State of Iowa. By-laws were recorded, duties defined.

Membership flourished between 1881-1900, with approximately 112 members (14 deceased) during that period. 1900-1919 there were 42 members, 1919-1953; 84 members, 1953-1971 the members were 20. In the past years memberships have decreased. At present (1996) there are 18 Sisters, one just newly admitted. Many of our Sisters are unable to attend our meeting due to illness.

In the early days the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs enjoyed picnics, dances and dinners, year round. Meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month, some in individual homes or at the Princeton Civic Center, with an average attendance of 8-11 members. We sponsor 8-10 Card Parties a year, held on the 3rd Monday of the month. Lunch and various card games are enjoyed. Members furnish salads and desert, the lodge provides the sandwiches and coffee. We normally enjoy a good attendance. Members have an Oyster Supper in November and December, Pot Lucks and a Santa Visit.

The lodge contributes to various organizations through the Grand Lodge, for a per capita tax- Arthritis, Home, Visual Eye Programs, the Educational Foundation, Rose Bowl Parade and Home Picnic. Members that are ill are remembered with cards and gifts as necessary. Locally funds are provided to assist with Princeton Days, Princeton Civic Center, Churches for Food Pantries, Halloween Parade and Santa Friends. Other local needs are supplied as needed. Flags are provided and placed on deceased members graves for Memorial Day.

Echo Rebekah Lodge hosted the Eastern Iowa Spring Convention in 1954. It was held at Boll's Hall (upstairs). it was well attended and the works and duties were presented beautifully. In 1971, Echo Rebekahs, also, hosted the convention at Virgil Grissom School. All the various charges were well presented, and attendance was excellent. We have assisted at conventions for other Lodges, also.

Our Noble Grand here at Princeton is also the District Deputy for this area. She is Edna Holst. Elma Elliott Steward has been a Rebekah for 67 years. Bessie Sierk has 65 years to her credit.

by Anna Beuse Schmidt





1918 vintage Princeton

PRINCETON COLT SHOW—Turning the calendar back to 1918, this is what downtown Princeton looked like. The riverside garage is located where Kernan's Restaurant is today. The event was a colt show, and everybody was dressed in proper attire. Contributed Photo





DARB SCHULZ
AND
HAROLD WOONERT
FEB. 1937



ST. W CAPITAL at Princeton



FEB. 1937

DARB SCHULE - - GROU WOODMKT



BEUSE'S RESTAURANT: HOME OF GOOD FOOD



IN THE BEGINNING:

Sunday, February 28th, 1948, a bright and beautiful 50' day, we drove to Princeton, Iowa, taking with us clothing and other special items. Tomorrow, we will move to Princeton to be part owners of a riverview tavern.

Monday, March 1, at 5:30 a.m. it was snowing hard, movers were to arrive at 7:00, it was a wet snow and amounting to several inches. George and I arrived in Princeton about 1:00, the movers not till 3:00, they had problems on Country Club Hill, almost leaving the road. The whole week was very cold, down below zero.

Our menu for the restaurant was mostly soup, chili and sandwiches at first. Then the fare was increased to noon lunches, pie and etc. Our customers were mostly local business men from Princeton and LeClaire and traveling salesmen.. In the fall and winter we had euchre games, free coon suppers, deer and elk, it was a treat for those who liked wild game.

In spring of 1953, we gained full ownership of the business and started Beuse's Restaurant, featuring catfish, chicken, steaks, and other meats. Most of our soups were made from scratch and some of our salad dressings were homemade. A speciality dressing was Beuse's Supreme, which many people liked. We also offered a variety of crackers and the relish trays were shaped like a boat and had 6 compartments. Tables were covered with green table clothes and green napkins were used.

We were able to take care of large groups, the Scott County Bankers came for our catfish dinners, boaters were always in and out, too. At one time a large group of people from the Chicago area would rent houseboats in Clinton on Friday and spend the week-end on the river, they would make reservations for dinner. This group was enjoyed by all, they were very nice people. After their dinner they would gather down at the Boat Club and sing folk songs, some they made up themselves. Many of these folks were very good musicians using a broom, wash-tub and other make shift items.

Our help was from the local area, many were teens who were bus persons or kitchen help. Our bartenders were Dave McLaughlin, Don Schmidt and Erwie Pruitt. Cooks were Anne Beuse Schmidt, Margaret Pruitt, Mary Lay and Ray Chelar.

Catfish was purchased in the fall, enough for the winter and spring season. It would be tub after tub full, that would need to each be scrubbed and packed in boxes and quick frozen. Irvin Faur was our main supplier and the fish was stored at Kroeger's Locker until we got our own freezing area after the Boat Club on the lower level was formed.

Our customers came from many areas then and many people after moving away would drop in to be with us for dinner and a visit. January 1, 1963 the business was sold to Paul and Dorothy Kernan, they were permitted to use our trade name.

Anne Beuss Schmidt
1995

GRAND OLD RIVER DAYS - "135 YEARS ON THE RIVER"

GRAND MARSHALL - MAE AND WALDO JONES

MAE and WALDO have been married 58 years, having lived in Princeton township all of their lives and in their present home for 45 years.

MAE went to Sand Hill School. She has worked for Kernan's in Princeton, baked for Bishop's in Davenport, Mr. C's in LeClaire, Raymond's in Camanche and just recently retired from Johnson Manufacturing in Princeton after 24-1/2 years of employment. Mae always has a big garden and does lots of canning. She loves flowers, picnics, quilting, craft work, crocheting, reading and watching sports on television with Waldo. She enjoys making special treats for residents at Princeton's Elderly Housing and is always cooking, baking and doing "something" special for friends and family.

WALDO went to the old Princeton School. He lived in town for 18 years and then moved to the country. He loves farming and has 156 acres of corn planted this year. He has been engaged in farming for 60 years. He enjoys reading, snowmobile riding, playing golf on his mini golf course in their front yard, picnics, flowers, gardening, watching sports on television with Mae, and delivering the special things Mae makes for friends and family.

MAE and WALDO are members of the Buffalo Bill Museum, the Community Improvement Corporation in LeClaire and 60 Plus. They have helped Bob Vogelbaugh with his FREE Thanksgiving Dinner at Hardees in Southpark for 12 years by donating their time and food.

MAE and WALDO are the parents of; Donald, LeClaire, Walt, Pleasant Valley, and Karen Bruhn of Davenport. They especially enjoy their grandchildren, great-grandchildren and dog, "Beauty".



His name was

His name should be remembered. He had a deformed
arm and leg but still could row a boat. It was his job to
light the lights in the church every evening and he would
be seen rowing up to it.

His name was

His name was a strange name.

Charles had the only blacksmith shop in town.

Charles and his wife lived at the old I&I depot where city
hall is now.

Charles had the section box for the Interurban
Railroad.

Charles had the section box for the DRI Railroad.

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Tib Stewart

1986



The Chautauqua

The Chautauqua also provided entertainment. The huge tent would be pitched behind the Zion Lutheran Church on a large vacant lot and they would stay for a whole week. They had a variety program and it was very interesting. People came from miles around each summer to enjoy the programs.



Other Memories

- * Lou Schaffer used the warehouse at the south end of Princeton to make "cement staves" for silos he sold around the country. It was quite a lucrative business and there were many cement silos around at one time.
- * On the property once owned by Mr. and Mrs. Gesell at the south part of town, are two old lime kilns that have stood the test of time and were operated for many years.
- * The Fulton's operated a telephone office upstairs over a large brick building (now gone) just north of Slaughter's Revere House. Mr. Fulton was a veterinarian and was out alot. Mrs. Fulton was a small woman with a mighty voice and she would operate an old stand-up switch board by plugging in the number asked for, and then ringing it in with a hand ringer. Quite a change from dialing direct such as we do today!
- * There were two doctors during the 1920's. Dr. Grassau who had an office in the building on the east side of Main Street (River Drive) (now gone). When Dr. Grassau left , a Dr. Cusick came and was here for quite some time before leaving to open another practice in Davenport.
- * Bands of Gypsies: Gypsies came through traveling in horse and buggies and would descend upon the town, usually in late summer. The merchants in town would close and lock all their doors until the gypsies decided to move on. The women wore full black skirts and would visit all of the business places if allowed in.
- * Grocery Stores: The town has had a variety of grocery stores. Starting with the J.D. Dennis Store, J.S. Hartwick, B.L.Morgan, Carter Whitney, Louie Ament, Edward Peitscher, John Hasenmiller, Allen Elliot, Henry Boll and Merlin Boll,
- * Jack Phelps lived in a houseboat where Kernan's docks are located. He repaired engines.
- * A Mr. Wilke built what we know as Lund's Garage. He operated it as a theater where silent movies were shown on Saturday night.

- "Tib" Stewart

1986

Virgil Grissom Grade School

In 1962, a committee of interested citizens from several areas attended meetings in Eldridge and surrounding towns, eventually forming the North Scott School District. This was decided after much controversy to update our local school system to delete the one room schools.

I was on this committee along with Roy Curtis, Glen Suiter, and Phyllis Heuer, all from our area. A school board was elected, however, they (the board and people in the western part of the district) didn't feel the necessity for a school in Princeton. Their contention was the children could be bused to a more central location. The board put up a bond issue as such. At that time in Princeton Township there were 538 eligible voters. I formed a 5 man committee to get every person possible to the polls that day to vote NO! The total vote in Princeton was 535 - all but 3. That is why we have Virgil Grissom Elementary School in Princeton.

- Joyce Brockhouse 1990

Princeton Baseball in the 1970's

Earl and I were very active in the "West Scott Baseball League" with three sons taking part. We were instrumental in the planning of the 1st Little League Tournament in Princeton. Jay Biles built a concession stand and its still being used at the Old School Park.

In 1973, Earl spent many hours making phone calls and going to meetings getting the West Scott Girl's Baseball League formed and which is still active.

-Joyce Brockhouse 1990

SHE WALKED ALONE - YOUR GRANDMOTHER AND MINE

I gaze with wondering eyes back to a time too long ago when a twenty one year old girl left family, friends and kin to seek a new life in a foreign land. The year was 1872 when your grandmother and mine came.

The trail was blazed for her by a young man named Marz Kroeger. He came one year before to establish himself and to locate friends near LeClaire, Iowa. The Jurgen Holst family welcomed him and he made his home with them. Your grandfather and mine came.

Anna Ahmling left the steerage compartment in New York City to meet friends and to find work to recoup her finances for the next leg of the journey. Your grandmother and mine came.

Chicago was her next haven of refuge. She worked there for a while in order to accumulate more savings to enable her to reach that final destination of so much promise. That German City in Iowa called Davenport. Your grandmother and mine came.

Her stay in Davenport was brief. A ride along the River Road to the junction of River Road and Lund's Crossing brought her close to that long sought goal, to meet up again with one Marx Kroeger. Those last 4 miles she walked alone. Your grandmother and mine.

(As some of you know Alice Thomsen Sinclair Denman started working on the family tree. This writing was among her things and was sent to her sister, Helen Thomsen Landerman. after an accident which claimed her life.)

- "Tib" Stewart 1986

ELMA PEISCHER ELLIOTT STEWART

Elma Peitscher graduated from the elementary school in Princeton and then went on to Clinton High School, where she graduated from in 1924. After attending Augustana College, she enrolled at Brown's Business College in Davenport. She taught school at Maple Glen School north of Princeton the next year and then back to Brown's to teach. She spent some time at the courthouse in the Department of Social Welfare and then back to Augustana because she was going to teach in Princeton the next two years.

Allen Elliott and Elma were married in June of 1931. They spent the next year on the Elliott farm west of Princeton, and the next seven years in Stanwood, Iowa where Allen had a bulk station for Standard Oil Co.

In 1939, they moved back to Princeton and took over the Peitscher grocery store from her parents, and spent the next 17 years in there.

In 1955, she went back to school teaching at Cody School west of LeClaire and stayed there for 12 years. Then she went to North Scott and taught for six years.

OTHER TEACHERS IN THE FAMILY

Mary Thomsen taught in Princeton for one year in the 1920's.

Ethel Peitscher taught in Princeton for seven years in the 1920's.

Elda Marie Peitscher taught school at the Lost Grove School. After her marriage, she and her husband opened a grocery store in LeClaire which they operated for 42 years.

OTHER FAMILY NOTES

Elaine Kroeger graduated from Princeton School. She was a very accomplished seamstress and cook. Her talents were in many directions. Like her father, nothing was too hard to tackle. Like the excellent refinishing job on the communion table and flower stands at the Princeton Presbyterian Church, which her father built out of walnut. The wood was from the farm he once owned.

Alberta Scharff graduated from LeClaire High School in 1936. She ran a milk route in Princeton and LeClaire for years

Tib S. '86

HAROLD 'SKIN' WOOMERT

1985

Grand Marshall for our Princeton Days parade, "Pioneers of Land and River", in this sesquicentennial year, is Harold 'Skin' Woomert.

Harold Woomert was born and raised in Princeton, Iowa and has lived here all his life. As a boy, 'Skin' delivered the Clinton Herald Newspaper, worked in the onion fields in Pleasant Valley and on the farm.

He graduated from Princeton High School in 1932 and LeClaire High School in 1934. 'Skin' had a six (6) piece band called "The Woomert's Commanders", and he also played with the "Ivan Langman Band". 'Skin' has played Baseball with Princeton, LeClaire, McCausland, and DuPont teams. July 4th was the 'big day' for baseball at Pinneo's Grove ball diamond (3 miles north of Princeton). The married and single fellows played against one another in the mornings and Princeton would always play either LeClaire or McCausland in the afternoon. 'Skin' also played basketball with the LeClaire A.C.'s, Gray's Grocery of Davenport, Princeton Independents and the Clinton Post-Holers. Harold got together a small group and furnished the music for the 'Minsterals' that was put on by the P.T.A. in the Princeton Community Building.

Harold worked at Sherman Williams before going to DuPont in Clinton, from where he retired in 1975 after 35 years.

Harold served 3½ years in the Air Force during World War II, touring Belgium, England, France, and Germany. He has been on the Princeton Volunteer Fire Department since 1938, and had the privilege of taking the first new fire truck out. He has served on the Princeton City Council for 32 years, serving in the capacity of Mayor Pro-Tem for the past 25 years. He has been on the board and is President of the Oakridge Cemetary Association in Princeton since its organization in 1966. It should also be noted that Harold was the one who got the letter written that led to the installation of the signal lights on Highway 67, for the safety of everyone.

Harold married Mildred Gast in 1939. They have 2 children - Roger and Bonita AND 5 grandchildren.

THANK YOU Harold, for the many hours of loyalty and service to and for your community.